FOREST REPORTS

OF THE

Bombay Presidency

FOR THE YEARS

1849-50 to 1855-56.

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GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY
OF BOMBAY.
23rd February 1871

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ac.

BY

SURGEON ALEXANDER GIBSON, F.L.S.,

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, AND SUPERINTENDENT BOTANICAL GARDENS,

AND BY THE LATE

ASSISTANT SURGEON J. E. STOCKS,

ACTING CONSERVATOR IN 1851-52.

Bombay:

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REPORT FOR 1849-50.

REPORT FOR 1849-50.

THE transactions noted in the present Report embrace a period extending from 1st October 1849 to 3rd June 1850, being eight months and three days.

The annual tour commenced by an inspection of the forests in the country above the Ghauts, including the Babool and Jujube preserves on the Moota Moola river, the Teak plantations in Ghera of Poorundhur, Singhur, the Moota Khora, Chas Kuman, and the ten villages on the Gu river.

2. Afterwards, in November, operations in progress at the Kolapore and Manikghur forests, and in the now extensive Teak preserves at Pabul and Kondivee, in the Penn Talooka, and Nagotna Mahal, were looked at, and the state of the forest generally observed. The results of all these inspections will appear in their proper places in the report: were I to notice them now, I should entirely confuse the details of the whole.

By commencing my report of progress from the southern limits of the countries visited, any one, with the aid of a sketch, will be able to follow up the line and extent of most of the pieces of Teak forest in our Presidency.

KANDULGAUM-TALOOKA, MALWAN-ZILLAH, RUTNAGHERRY.

3. On route from Malwan to Sawunt Waree, I visited the forest at Kandulgaum, which was three years ago thinned to a good profit, the nett proceeds being about Rs. 625. The Teak trees here may amount to several thousands, but they do not appear to give the promise of becoming large wood; in fact the soil is too rocky to admit of their becoming so. About sixteen Sissoo trees of tolerable size were ordered to be disposed of, an offer of Rs. 60 having been made for them.

The plantation continues much choked up with jungle-wood, and it will be necessary to incur some expense in the ensuing season for the removal of

this. Part of the best ground which belonged to the forest seems to have been lotted off in Kowl for cultivation.

PENDOOR, PRANT KOODAL, TALOOKA MALWAN.

4. Leaving this plantation, I proceeded towards the chowkee near Pendoor, on the bounds of Waree, at which latter village is a plantation. In the mountain ground thereof is a compact patch of Teak forest, comprising about eight thousand trees. These seem to have appeared consequent on the Government order of 1838, and are now in progress to become small but useful timber, which in that bare part of the country is of value.

I have not yet succeeded in getting any permanent arrangements made for their conservation, but this is of less consequence so long as the present Collector remains at Rutnagherry, as he has done much to keep up what Teak forest there remains in the Collectorate.

I should here mention that I am now in communication with Mr. Coles regarding the restoration of the piece of the Malwan forest above mentioned to its former purpose.

BEEROWNDA, KANDUL, SANGRIA, AND TALOOKA MALWAN.

5. Besides the Teak in the abovementioned two plantations, I cannot learn that there is any in this part of the Collectorate, except at Beerownda, Kandul, and Sangria, villages lying in a narrow valley bounded on the east by Sahyadree Ghauts.

I saw these plantations in passing north from the Waree Border. They each contain from five to six thousand trees, straight and of good promise, and of growth subsequent to the Government order of 1838. I am at present in communication with the Collector regarding these, with a view to the preservation of the wood,—at all events till it can become fit for local uses.

Having been at Pendoor joined by Mr. Poulton, Assistant Agent for Timber in Malabar, we proceeded across the bare country to Mangaum, and from thence *viâ* Malgaum to Kesree. Our object was to examine the timber in the Kesree Forest, with the view of ascertaining whether it could be applied to naval purposes.

6. The results of our examination have already been detailed in my communication to Government in the Political Department No. 107, under date 10th March. It may suffice here to state that, owing to the system of jungle-burning which in by-gone years prevailed, in the Waree territory, in Teak as well as in other forests, not one of the trees (which otherwise were of first quality) could be turned to naval purposes, as the stems generally were blasted

or decayed two-thirds up. A considerable quantity of young wood, however, is (under the careful management of Major Jacob) in progress in the Kesree mountain; and this, in case the present system be continued here, will in future years afford a fair supply.

7. The Teak forest at Malgaum, and places nearer to Waree, continues to be carefully looked after, and will some twenty years hence afford a large quantity of medium timber. I am not sure that, even now, thinning out in the thicker portions might not be attended with some nett pecuniary return, and it certainly would be with advantage to the development of the trees.

8. Mr. Poulton having left me at Kesree, I proceeded by the east shoulder of Munohur to Sewapoor valley, keeping to the wooded country, which in this line extends under the forts of Rangna and Sussiadroog. Beyond this line, to the west, the country is comparatively bare.

9. At Beergaum and Koosgaum there is a considerable quantity of older plantation, mixed with the younger trees now in progress. At Koosgaum I had pleasure in observing the care which was taken of the young trees while cultivation was carried on under them. They were lopped sufficiently to reduce the shade, without at all affecting the integrity of the tree, while the stems were protected from the jungle-burning by previously clearing away the grass from around them, so that fire could not reach them. Trees thus treated attain a size superior to what they do in common forest land. It were to be desired that such care were always exercised.

10. The people here complain of the hardship of having to pay full rates of mountain cultivation, while obliged to preserve the Teak. On this I would remark that I gathered, by admission from the people themselves, that under the old rule of the country, they were subject to the same orders as now regarding the preservation of the Teak, which here appears to have been a perquisite of the Killadars of Rangna, &c., and was cut and sold for their behoof; only still it appears to me fair that the cultivator, if possible, should have some personal interest in this growing forest, both as a measure of justice and of future benefit to the plantation.

I therefore suggested to Major Jacob the possibility of getting the villagers to execute agreements, by which they would have one-third share of the growing timber on its being cut, and the use of the side branches for field fuel.

11. Having observed at these villages some wanton destruction of young timber by persons who have been employed in fulfilling a requisition made from Koodal, I brought the same to the notice of Major Jacob.

12. This valley is very favourably situated for timber growth, being

sheltered from the sea winds by the long hill called "Sidh," while on the east it is shut in by the steep faces of the Ghauts.

Passing the gorge which leads to Necroki, we find the country from this to Kulsolee abounding in cross hills and ravines, favourable to wood growth; accordingly a great deal of young Teak forest is to be seen here. Of old wood there is very little; it is mostly of seven or eight years' growth. Thus at Dakta, Bhungaum, Pangrad, &c. the sides of the hills are studded with young forest; also to the east of Kulsolee a long valley stretches under the Ghauts, and in it is much young wood.

On the hills at Koopurda I had occasion to remark the extensive destruction of young trees. This I duly intimated to Major Jacob. The people had apparently calculated on those hills being so far out of the line of common road that they might without observation cut away as they pleased.

13. The regulations on the subject of wood, as made by Major Jacob, appear to be very judicious,—strong, without being oppressively stringent. Under such a system (if it be kept up for twenty years), we may look for a supply of good timber, which will be of great service to the people of the country.

14. In taking leave of the subject of the Waree State, I may remark, in passing, how mistaken an idea often prevails that the cutting down of the larger timber improves the accessibility of a country. Here, where the practice of "Koomree" or mountain cultivation is general, trees of any size or utility are comparatively scarce, while the whole of the south-western districts, except on the hills where Teak grows, are one mass of matted bush, exceedingly difficult to penetrate, and affording abundant cover for any marauders or evil disposed persons; and yet I have understood that it was in the view of preventing the possibility of such shelter that the larger forest trees of the country had been ordered to be cut to an unlimited extent from 1820 down to the end of the last campaign.

15. With respect to the Sissoo, as preserved at Sawunt Waree, I could observe none of any value beyond that which fits it more for local purposes, such as house supports, knees of Native patamars, &c. The scantling is small, and it is always crooked.

RUTNAGHERRY COLLECTORATE, LANJA MAHAL.

16. After leaving the Waree border, I did not meet with any timber worth looking at, with the exception of a few Teak trees in the northern part of the Lanja Mahal of the Rutnagherry Collectorate. From hence to the head of Jyghur Creek, north of Palee, at Wandree, and Fungoos, there are the remains of forest, which has been more extensive in past years.

JYGHUR CREEK.

17. What we now see are merely shoots from the stocks of the old trees. It is indeed probable that extensive woods have at one time existed here, as the sheltered sides of the Jyghur Creek for at least thirty miles from its head are continuous, well shut in, and not destitute of soil.

18. Under our system of exhaustion without replacement, the sides of the hills enclosing these well shut in valleys are now bare, having been mostly denuded of even the gnarled stocks from which the annual supply of branches for field-burning is cut.

I inquired of many of the cultivators who own the level holms skirting the creek, whether they experienced any difference in the supply of water from above since the wood had been cleared off. The universal reply to these inquiries (made at different places from separate persons) was that now the water came down in a lump, leaving the upper lands and the holm-fields arid in the dry season; whereas in former years the supply was more gradual and more permanent. Further, as a reason for their cutting off the stocks and gnarled stems, which furnished their annual supply of vegetable manure, they stated that under the present produce-value, they are compelled, in order to make good the revenue, to cultivate their holm-lands with sugarcane to a much greater extent than they had occasion in former years to do. That the only fuel fit for boiling the juice consisted of the ripe wood and roots of those stocks. The latter reason I know from my own experience in sugar-making to be quite true.

Of course foresight on the part of the cultivators in replacing this waste, at once ruinous to their own subsistence and to the revenue of the country, is, as usual, wanting; and to hope that Government would undertake planting on the gigantic scale requisite to meet the emergency is (I respectfully submit) absurd.

JYGHUR TO ANJERLA CREEK.

19. Leaving the Creek of Jyghur, I repaired to that of Anjerla, wherein is situated the piece of forest called the Severndroog Plantation. It extends over the land of ten villages, and was (as the Board may remember) thinned for three several seasons subsequent to 1841-42. At that time it was thinned with a nett profit of several thousand rupees. The forest is well kept, and in the more sheltered parts will in a few years give large timber. I think I before estimated the number of trees which it contains at about three hundred thousand. This estimate I formed from computing the labour of upwards of fifty men employed in the thinning for three months in each year. I was happy to observe

the amount of damage in Tarcel and other villages this year was less than formerly, as the supervision is now well attended to by two of the Rutnagherry Rangers stationed there for public purposes, and a Conservator's Peon, whom I allotted to that duty two years ago.

By the aid of these three parties, numerous acts of plunder have been traced, and the authors thereof punished. Adverting to the thinning, which was concluded in this forest five years ago, it consisted in the pruning of the side branches of the trees, and the removal of superfluous shoots.

20. A thinning of the higher description remained to be performed, viz. to thin out entirely the trees in places where they are too close to each other, and thus mutually impede growth. I had this carried out in about half the forest last season. The expenditure incurred in effecting this amounted to Rs. 413-15-1, while the proceeds were Rs. 2,684-5-7, thus leaving a nett profit of Rs. 2,270-6-6. This forest is so eligibly situated for water carriage that it cannot be too carefully kept.

Such a piece of plantation along the sides of the hills of the Jyghur Creek would be still more valuable, as the extent of land is greater, and the creek water of more uniform depth. The Anjerla Creek is inconveniently shallow, and impassable at times even to a canoe.

TOOREEL AND YENEREH TUPPAS, TALOOKA RYGHUR, ZILLAH TANNA.

21. From Severndroog Talooka I moved my camp to the southern part of the Tanna Collectorate, so as to allow of my visiting in detail the line of Teak preserve which is embraced in the Tuppas of Tooreel and Yenereh, the latter forming that ravinny and mountainous country which extends from the Ghauts of the Mahableshwur line far towards the sea. In this line of forest the preserves partially embrace the mountain land of about twenty-four villages. In some of these the trees are confined to the ravines and more sheltered gullies, while in others they, intermingled with other forest wood, clothe the sides of the hill. The state of the trees is very much better since the appointment of a Conservator's Peon to watch the forest: lopping off the tops, and cutting off young plants in clearing land for mountain cultivation, have been nearly stopped. We had a partial thinning and cutting in this forest in 1848, which produced a net profit of about Rs. 850.

I beg to recommend that in Tamana and Reottulla a partial cutting take place this season, and that some expense be incurred for thinning and pruning at Adista, Nurwun, Gowaree, Khoteet, and Beloosee. The profits from the first of these operations will go far to defray the expenditure caused by the second.

22. The Poladpore Mahalkuree, who seems to be an energetic old man, gives every assistance to the forest-keeper in tracing out depredations here. One difficulty of some magnitude comes in the way of our endeavours, viz. that in the villages of the Rutnagherry Collectorate which abut on this preserve, the Teak being under proclamation (by the late Mr. Dunlop, of 1824) considered the property of the villagers, they cut it as they please, and any Teak stolen from our forests is always represented to be wood from the Rutnagherry villages, the Khotes whereof are at all times ready to accept the paternity; so that in several instances, although the stocks were fresh cut, and visible in our bounds, and fresh wood was subsequently found in those of Rutnagherry, the chain of proof sufficient for conviction has been, from the above cause, wanting in completeness.

23. From these Tuppas, I passed into the mountainous country which forms the Mahal of Beerwaree. It contains about thirty villages, well studded with Teak, the greater part of which is of date subsequent to 1838.

The nature of the country is very favourable to the growth of the tree. It is of some consequence to keep this growth up in the Beerwaree Mahal, seeing that, with the exception of the branches of the Teak, there is no other tree-material whatever for field-burning. On this account I have made arrangements with sundry of the villages, permitting the people to have the use of the side branches, keeping the remainder of the tree entire. I wish I could say the consequences have always been good, but I am sorry to observe that in several cases at Toormeh, &c. the heads of trees had been lopped, and that they had otherwise been over-trimmed.

The villagers have been strictly warned on the subject by the Amuldar, so that I hope in a succeeding season the report may be more favourable. The destruction is certainly less than was the case when I first saw this forest in 1844.

24. In the villages Darolee, Kalolee, and Toormeh, I began a partial cutting this year, partly for the supply of the surrounding country, and partly for bunder requirements.

The material cut was of good quality as to straightness and size, but its value for sea purposes was deteriorated by the results of the former practice of close lopping, as each stick was observed to have a slightly decayed portion where the branch had been cut off. This, though not affecting its use in house-building, renders it unfit for yards of boats, where the violence of the sea-winds has to be contended with. The observation is of some importance in a practical point of view.

The expenses incurred in cutting here were about Rs. 281, while the returns amounted to Rs. 1,149.

25. Adjacent to this Mahal, in the country which forms the upper part of the Talooka of Ryghur, most of the villages have their patches of Teak plantation in progress on the hills, and in the deep ravines of the uncultivated ground. The whole of this wood is within ten years' growth.

NATEH KHIND TO KOOMBA GHAUT.

The same sort of forest extends on the western face of the hills which run from Dasgong, by Nateh Khind, until they meet and inosculate with the Ghaut range south of Nizampore. The clefts and valleys between the hills contain much young wood. In this line I have got agreements for the preservation of the wood, on the principle of joint partnership, from several Khotes and Darakurees.

I examined this line of villages on my way from Beerwaree, by Nateh Khind, to the Nizampore Mahal.

GOREGAUM AND TULLEH PETAS.

26. I did not then diverge to visit the more seaward Petas of Tulleh and Goregaum, as I had previously partially examined them on my way down the coast in December.

In the latter of these Mahals, Teak plantation is found in all the villages where there exists a mountain or ravine for its shelter. Hence it is most abundant in the Goelee Tuppa, which abuts on the Hubshee's Country; and here in many parts the trees have attained some size, and the number of large ones would have been still greater but for the depredations committed by the Musulman Khotes, who hold most of the villages in that part of the country. These men are in circumstances comparatively easy, and little disposed to obey the orders of Government more than they can possibly help. From this disposition, and from the easy cover afforded by their vicinity to the Hubshee's Country, the Teak forest here has been cut away to an extent which has not been the case in any other Talooka; and although the Collector of the Zilla has been at pains in stirring the Native Amuldars of the Peta to assist in repressing these abuses, the latter officers seem to have failed in doing so. In fact, the subordinate establishments in the district, bound as they are in a network of local interests and prepossessions, have an immediate stake in the continuance of the plunder, and seem in no case to do their best to bring the offenders to justice.

I have already, from this cause, been under the necessity of putting on an additional forester here from the contingent allowance, but I have little hope

that even this addition will be sufficient, unless the local authorities have stronger hands and a more intense will.

27. As an example of the extent to which plunder has been carried on in this border, I mention the village of Moorbeh, which had been sub-let by the Khote to another person. The latter, taking advantage of his period of occupation, cut away for export to Bombay about two thousand trees, a fact which I ascertained by going over the whole of the forest with the proprietary Khote in person.

Not only was this depredation committed, but my forester was beaten and maltreated when he went to inquire into and report on the outrage. Since then, the proprietary Khote of the village has willingly given an agreement for conservation on the one-third share. He is a respectable Musulman of Bankote, and has suffered from the practices of his late sub-tenant.

The neighbouring village of Doongrowlee, which contains two fine mountains covered with young forest, I have given for conservation to the village Mahars on the one-fourth share. The Khote is a Sowkar, residing in Tulleh.

28. Returning to my route from Ryghur Talooka towards Nizampore, the first part, viz. that from Nateh Khind to near the foot of the Koomba Ghaut (about fourteen miles), lay along the mouth of several deep valleys, flanked by high land to the east, and having the slopes of the hills and the gullies well provided with Teak. Much of this will be fit for cutting in the ensuing season, and as a supply is here required for the use of the people, sold at easy rates it will prove a boon to them, while it will yield a fair profit to Government.

PATNOOS, SOORGHUR, AND WYJNATH.

29. From hence I passed inland close to the Ghauts. Neither here nor in the middle portion of the Nizampore Mahal to the west (visited in 1843) is there much Teak, but the country is generally well wooded (chiefly with Mango trees), and studded with flourishing villages.

The Nizampore Mahal is here bounded by the Punt Suchew's Country to the north of Patnoos. At the latter village the Teak forest is extensive, and much of it so old and gnarled that it may give us a supply of smaller crooks for the Dockyard.

Along the course of the Rewadunda river, which takes its rise from the Ghauts in this vicinity, the British bounds continue to abut on those of the Punt Suchew, the river being the division. Afterwards, in the bounds of Aeen Mahal, &c. they cross the river, and form part of the Nagotna Mahal.

In the deep valleys, and on the high ridges under the hill-fort of Soorghur, much of the Teak is of good size, but crooked. There is also much young wood of great promise.

It is on the records of the Board that last season I gave an agreement to a Khote proprietor of six villages in this vicinity, on the one-third share principle. I felt desirous to ascertain whether he had observed the terms of the agreement. I have pleasure in being able to report that, after a careful inspection, I found his forest in excellent order, and that, in spots where the ground had been cleared for cultivation, the Teak trees growing thereon were carefully pruned and preserved. The Khote will find his account in the care thus taken of his wood, as it seems probable that in course of next season we may be able to pick out from the shoulders of Soorghur and other precipitous places a quantity of crooks for the Naval Department.

VILLAGES TO THE WEST OF KHAMB, TOWARDS THE ALIBAGH BORDER.

30. From Wyjnath westward, keeping to the north of Rewadunda river, the villages to the right, viz. Khamb, Tullolee, Cheela, Kana, and Deokana, each contains a good forest preserve, situated on the hills which bound them to the north.

The trees are young, and of good promise. No Khote or other person in this line has yet given an agreement for conservation.

COLABA, ALIBAGH.

31. From this line I passed by the mountain gorge of Maun into the Alibagh Territory. In the main gorge, the young Teak is pretty plentiful, and of superior quality as to length and straightness; in this respect differing from Beloosee and the other villages of the more open country, where it is gnarled, and much of it fit for boat-crooks.

I did not turn to the right this year to inspect the Teak in the Maun valley, or at Beloosee, Chowra, and other places, as I had seen them shortly before. I visited the depôt at Ramraz, and saw there a quantity of wood, which formed part of the cutting made on the recommendation of Mr. Jones and myself in December 1848, viz. that it should comprise trees which were not straight enough for superior building purposes, and not crooked enough for naval purposes.

The object of cutting this is, that these comparatively useless stems would probably be replaced by straight young shoots.

The immediate profit arising from this disposition of work for the season cannot be great, but the future benefit to the forest is certain. Mr. Jones had hoped to have made up a public account of wood profits this season by the supply of naval crooks, but he necessarily waited for the services of the Dockyard Maistree, who has been employed since early in December under me in Kolwan.

I had intended that he should visit Colaba in March, and had endeavoured to arrange with him for that purpose; but he stated that if he left Kolwan the work there must stand still; and as the demand in the Dockyard for crooked timber was urgent, I had only the alternative of allowing him to remain. I propose arranging for this season by despatching the Jemadar beforehand, so that no time may be lost in searching for material, and he will have the country before him from Colaba to the Ghauts.

The results of wood-cutting and sales in the Colaba Department for the season 1849 are as follows:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Fees and firewood	465	1	9
Timber and loppings sold	615	7	11
Rs.	1,080	9	8
Credit given by Government on account of Superintendent.	661	0	0
Total.....Rs.	1,741	9	8
Deduct cost of transport	606	5	4
Nett return .....Rs.	1,135	4	4

Touching the Colaba establishments for wood conservation, I think it would be for the benefit of the State if they were, from time to time, moved to other parts of the country, so as to enable them to learn more of the general system of forest management, and to wean them from local associations, for which wood-dealing affords so many facilities, as has been proved in the case of the establishments under the Collector of Malabar, and seems in a fair way to be proved to quite as great an extent in those of Khandeish.

In case of Government and the Superintendent agreeing to the proposal, I could arrange for reliefs, including the Karkoon, by the end of September next.

32. One claim of right to the Teak in Colaba has come to my notice since last year. It was made by a Poona Brahmin to the Revenue Commissioner, but I conclude that it has not met with more encouragement than its foundation deserved.

NAGOTNA, PABUL, AND KONDWEE.

33. Next in order are the forests in the long gorges which compose the northern part of the Nagotna Mahal. These gorges extend from the Ghaut bases to the creeks, but it is only in their western third that Teak is found in quantities. Here it, in many places, though of recent growth, has begun to form a thick forest, so that the sides of the hills have now from a distance a wooded appearance. I believe that we owe much of this promising result to Mr. Jones, who, when Assistant in the Tanna Collectorate, was stationed here, and took great interest and trouble in preserving the young forest from injury.

34. At present I suppose that the number of villages in the Mahal which contain Teak forest exceeds forty.

We have for the last two seasons been cutting in the Khalsa villages at Dewanmal, Pabul, and Kondwee.

35. In these we began because the wood was more ripe than in most other places; also because there were in the adjacent hills a number of crooked sticks, which it was desirable to have replaced by fresh shoots.

Operations for the present year show a nett profit of about Rs. 900.

This would have been much larger, but that the Karkoon in charge caused some loss by forwarding to the naval yard, as boat-crooks, 825 sticks which were judged to be unfit for the purpose, the remainder being approved. Of these 400 had been marked for cutting by a Dockyard Maistree, despatched last season at the expense of this Department.

For this reason I contended in a late correspondence that the Naval Department should bear part of the loss incurred in disposing of this unfit material. My proposition was, however, unfavourably received, and as the final sacrifice has not been material, I did not again agitate the subject.

36. The Khote villages in this Mahal are pretty numerous.

NO WUTUNDAREE KHOTES NORTH OF BANKOTE.

37. Of the nature of their tenure I have not information in detail, but if the assertion of Mr. Dunlop (vide Report for 1821-22, paragraph 24) be correct, their claims cannot be of old date. Here, however, from their proximity to Bombay, and from their general state of prosperity, the Khotes are unusually clamorous about the extent of their forest right. On this account I have forborne to disturb what they are pleased to term their forest preserves, until I can do so with the distinct sanction of higher authority.

The Khotes south of the Nagotna Khind are now gradually writing in to

accept agreements guaranteeing them a share in the forest on certain terms, but as yet not one in the Nagotna valleys has given his adhesion.

The agreements in question are safe under any circumstances, seeing that in each is a clause providing, in case Government see fit to make over to the Khotes the entire right over the forest, they shall not, in virtue of this agreement, be debarred from the boon accorded.

I visited this line of forest in November, before going down the coast.

WARSAE, MANIKGHUR, GAGODA, &c.

38. Crossing the mountain gorge by the Ruttunghur fort, we come on the Teak forest villages of the Penn Talooka, to which are now added those formerly a part of the Angria Territory, viz. Gagoda, Warsae, Parla, Neephar, and the skirts of the hill-fort Manikghur.

In the villages of the Penn Talooka all the trees are yet young, and cannot be thinned with benefit for eight years to come.

The wood in the villages of the heretofore Angria Territory, again, is of excellent quality, and much of it now serviceable for boats, yards, rafters, pillars, &c., while on the slopes of Manikghur there is a quantity of older wood, with a fair sprinkling of young timber.

39. In 1847-48 and in 1848-49, I had a thinning and cutting establishment employed in Warsae and Parla, and again during the past season in cutting away crooked timber available as boat-crooks, and the remainder readily bought up to supply the increasing demand for cart pieces on the Bombay road. My people were also employed in selling the material which remained unsold last year.

The transactions for the season show a nett profit of about Rs. 376-9-3.

This I think might have been greater, but for the delays and references from Doorset Bunder to that of Penn, necessary in the Customs Department. These delays are by my Muccadum represented to have been so frequent and so vexatious that dealers from Bombay left the market.

40. It may here be necessary to explain that the services of a Custom House Karkoon are required for registering the export, not for any levy of duties on the wood, and therefore it seems to me that the purpose might be answered by this Deputy forwarding, at the end of the season, a list of the timber which had been actually exported. Besides the taking a note of the timber, the delay in granting permission for departure of the laden boats is said to have been great, but probably unavoidable.

41. The timber in this valley, though apparently so near to Bombay, is yet difficult of export, either to that port or inland. The road to the nearest

port is of the worst description, while landward the only means of communication with the plain of the Panwell districts is half shut up by one or two heavy mountain gorges prolonged from the shoulders of the Manikghur Hills.

PANWELL PLAIN, AND KHALAPORE MAHAL.

42. On reaching the plainer ground in the Panwell Talooka and Khalapore Mahal, we find that the trees keep to the skirts of the hills bounding the valley to the north and the south.

In all these lines the Teak tree is plentiful, of good quality, and in situations such that it does not interfere either with the cultivation of the plain or with that on the plateau of the lower hills.

The arrangements for conservation in this district are, owing to the active co-operation of the Komavisdar of Panwell, good. Chawaneh, Sawneh, Warred, &c. are the villages on the southern bound of the valley. These I have examined only cursorily; but those on the north, including the forest in the cross range beyond Chowk (east), have been taken in hand, with a view to thinning and improving the young wood.

We have begun at Lodewlee, a village four miles west of Chowk, and last season finished an extensive trimming here at a nett cost of about Rs. 82.

In the adjacent village, Tanke Chewaree, we have an agreement from the Khote on the one-third principle, so that here no expenditure will be incurred.

This year I intend to begin on the Teak of Nureel and of Chowk. I had been under the impression that the latter village was altogether Inam, but on a reference to the records of the Poona Duftur, I find that there is only an assignment of a certain share of the revenue to a Brahmin, the assignment having been made when this part of the country belonged to Angria.

NIGROLEE, KOLLOTTA, AND YENEGAUM.

43. Further on, four miles east of Chowk, is the cross range which cuts the valley here. I have for two seasons employed a number of men at Nigrolee, Kollotta, &c. for trimming, the wood being more mature than at Lodewlee. Thinning has cost nothing; on the contrary, on each of the two occasions a profit of Rs. 200 to Rs. 360 has been realised to Government.

This year the nett profit is Rs. 360.

The wood here is so promising as to warrant some expenditure in trimming it, and when this can be incurred without loss, nay with profit, there need be no hesitation about carrying on the work in future seasons, as the young forest is extensive, and will require some years for its completion.

All this line of forest I visited in November, and again in March.

NUSRAPORE TALOOKA.

44. From Khalapore Mahal I proceeded into the Nusrapore Talooka, looking at the forest villages as far as Kandus, below Bheemasunkur Ghaut; in fact, I held as near as possible in a straight line from below Rajmachee, north.

The hills here are of great height, and generally bare and rocky above, while young Teak plantation clothes their lower third, and often runs out into the barren parts of the plain. All the wood which I saw in this Talooka was immature, and would be by no means yet profitable to trim. From this district I have as yet only one agreement, viz. that of the village of Kondewra.

45. As I ascended the Ghaut by Bheemasunkur, I ought now to notice the Teak preserves in the Poona Collectorate, but previous to doing so I turn aside to describe the plantations at Tanna. These I visited *viâ* Bombay, in the beginning of March.

SAG BAREE, KASSEE, AND MEERA.

The Sag Baree, close to the town of Tanna, is a miserable little bit of Teak plantation. Scrubby, however, as it appears, we realised a profit of Rs. 46-3-9 by trimming it this season. From this I proceeded to the plantations at Kassee and Meera, near to Gorebunder. Of these a great portion is situated in sheltered dells; therefore we may look to the trees becoming of some value. I intend to begin a trimming here this season, and I have every hope that from the quality of the wood, and the vicinity of a cart-road, profit, rather than loss, will be the result.

The number of Teak trees in the Kassee and Meera jungle I computed at thirty thousand ("nuzur pahanee," or estimate by the eye).

46. To proceed to the jungle above the Ghauts, I begin with that of Kekvee, in the Ghera of Poorundhur, comprising Kekvee, Mundar, Dunkooree, &c. Last year I announced my intention of beginning a thinning here, and thus getting rid of a great deal of the old gnarled wood, while improving that which was of promise. Accordingly, I proceeded with thinning from August to November, and in October I had occasion to see that many thousand trees of good promise had been well trimmed.

Sales of older and of other wood have, on the whole, been dull, so that even now there remains a quantity in hand; I believe, however, that the nett profit, including computed value of boat-crooks, reserved for the Naval Department, as per order of Government No. 7248, of 18th November 1848, will be above

Rs. 559-5-3. The bont-crooks, to the number of one hundred and fifty, have been cut, trimmed, and made fit for carriage; but as we could not procure carriage to Panwell or to Mahr, on fair terms, I have preferred allowing them to remain in the forest, so that they can be exported to Bombay after November.

In these villages there is a great deal of wood. The full value of this material will not be realised by Government until our circumstances lead to the opening of a direct line of made road from Sattara to Poona, through the Kekvee valley, by which, indeed, at present a great deal of merchandise forces its way. The forest of the Kekvee valley and Poorundhur Ghera generally will then become of much utility for the supply of Poona and the country round.

47. As some disputes had arisen regarding the actual limit of these forests, and the Ryots had at several places pushed their cultivation into the limits of the Government preserve, and afterwards on this ground laid claim to the Teak growing therein in September 1848, and afterwards in September 1849, I requested that a surveying or other civil officer might be despatched to meet me at the forest in my October tour, as we could then, in person, determine satisfactorily the bounds. On neither occasion, however, have circumstances permitted the arrangement being carried out by the Collector or the head of the Survey, therefore the subject still remains in abeyance.

48. Also, the rights of the British Government in the Punt Suchew's Teak Kooruns of Allumdee, Kapoordee, Sungumnair, &c., all of them villages lying on the opposite side of the valley from Kekvee, remain as yet undetermined.

It probably is on the records of the Board that in June 1848 I addressed to the Collector of Poona a letter, embodying extracts from the Poona Duftur records; all of these extracts tending to show that the right of the paramount Government in the Teakwood of these Kooruns was a recorded fact, proved by the accounts of sales and fines, and that therefore the presumption was very strong that the Collector of Poona in 1846 had given away our rights on the false and probably suborned oral testimony of a single witness.

Consequent on the representation then made, Government were pleased to order that the question of right remain in abeyance pending an inquiry, and that no cutting take place, either on our part or on that of the Suchew, in the Kooruns in question. The dispute yet remains undecided: I beg most respectfully to solicit the decision of Government on the matter.

DEOOREE AND KAMERA.

49. In the country between Poorundhur and Singhur are some long valleys, having the sides of the hills studded with young Teak plantations,

ready formed to hand, under order of 1838. I have executed an agreement with the Patels of Kamera for conservation there.

SINGHUR GHERA.

50. This forest I also visited in October, and gave it a pretty extensive inspection. The state of the wood is very satisfactory, and the trees trimmed subsequent to 1843 show a very improved appearance. In my report for 1849 I had occasion to notice the great benefit which had resulted from the repression of the practice of breaking the heads of the trees by the leaf pullers. At present such is the state of the plantation that we could, at any given hour, supply to a Public Department first class rafters and ridge sticks, having a value of eight to twelve annas each, to the number of forty or fifty thousand, while the annual thinnings only relieve us of the crooked and least valuable pieces. We have now concluded the seventh year of those thinnings, which it is probable may occupy two seasons more.

Each year has given us a good nett profit; that of the present year amounts to upwards of Rs. 1,120-7-6, after defraying all charges.

This year the charges have been rather heavy, as we trimmed a larger quantity of the forest than usual. They amounted to Rs. 740 or thereabouts. However, we have to consider that these disbursements give employment to the cultivating classes at a season when their private stock of food is unusually small.

51. With relation to the annual sale of grass and Teak leaves which takes place in this forest, I would beg to observe that the value of the leaf contract is probably progressive diminution, owing to the now larger number of tiled houses in Poona. This has materially affected the consumption of Teak leaves, but the cause is not one to be regretted, seeing that it indicates increase of comfort to the people.

TEAK AROUND POONA.

52. These plantations I alluded to in my report of last year. I again visited them in October 1849, and found that the wood is on the whole well preserved. Since my last report I have given the conservation of several to local residents on the one-third or one-fourth principle, according to circumstances.

53. In my last report I solicited the decision of Government touching the claim of the "Meerujkur" to the Koorun of Aglamba, for which he holds no Sunud, and which, in fact, in as far as we could learn, had been given to him

in the time of Commissioner Chaplin for a temporary purpose. The subject was first mooted by me in a letter to the Collector of Poona, bearing date 17th June 1848. The same was, I believe, duly forwarded by that officer to the proper authority.

54. The importance of these detached plantations in the vicinity of a city like Poona I have before dilated on. Granted that only one tree in twenty may reach a good size, the average of the whole will be such as to render the trees most useful for the dwellings of the middle and lower classes. In fact, here every bit of Teak above the size of a broomstick has a marketable value.

55. I have pleasure in reporting that one of the Teak-keepers on the one-fourth share principle has trimmed a large number of the trees in Nandoosee village. These I minutely examined, and found that he had brought them into a good state for forming timber. In a few years he will reap the benefit of his foresight.

I also should mention that in the Koorun of Kopra, in this line, are five hundred Sandalwood trees now in progress. These seem to have been formerly cut away annually by the grass-cutters.

VILLAGES IN AMBEGAUM TALOOKA, AND OTHERS TO THE NORTH-WEST OF POONA.

56. In these Teak is comparativaly thinly scattered, being found in probably not more than ten of the villages out of the many composing the Talooka. I have looked at them only very partially. Some years hence they will be worthy of a more minute inspection.

TULLOWREH, KURKOONDEE, KOO, AND KOYALEE.

57. These are villages near to or on the banks of the Bheema, in its upper portion. They each of them contain from four to five thousand trees, which will in time become serviceable. The conservation of all these has been provided for on the share principle. In two of those thus arranged, viz. Koo and Koyalee, adverting to the smaller size of the trees, and the trouble incurred in trimming them, I agreed to give the keepers a gratuity of Rs. 10 for each village, provided they trimmed the trees before the hot season. This appeared the cheapest method of getting the work performed.

58. In the village of Tullowreh, for which a one-third share agreement was executed last season, I this year had a cutting of the best of the wood, leaving the younger and more promising of the trees.

The Patel stipulated that he should have one hundred good rafters to build

a house, in addition to his conservation one-third. This I made no objection to giving him, as he had really taken good care of the wood adjacent to his fields. I trust that Government may approve of the gift. After deducting expense of cutting, the nett profit carried to the credit of Government has been Rs. 80-3-1.

CHAS AND KUMAN.

59. This Koorun was trimmed for three successive seasons, ending with 1846; the nett profit each year having been satisfactory.

This year I trimmed out to the extent of above eight thousand sticks, which were readily bought up at good prices. The expenditure incurred was Rs. 212-13-6, and the return from sales Rs. 1,056-15-11, leaving a nett profit of Rs. 844-2-5.

The depredations in this Koorun have been numerous, and difficult of repression, insomuch that I have been under the necessity of paying a special keeper from the contingent allowance.

60. The right of property in the adjacent Koorun of Kuman, which a Purbhoo holds without a Sunud, has not been inquired into. I submitted the subject to the consideration of the Collector of Poona in 1848, forwarding, at the same time, certified extracts from the Poona Duftur, but the subject does not appear to have yet come under the consideration of Government. It were desirable that the question of right should be settled, because the proximity of this Koorun to that of Chas gives great facility to the plunderers of the latter, who uniformly state that they purchased timber found with them under suspicious circumstances in the Purbhoo's Koorun.

GORNEHR FOREST, YOREH, AMOONDEE, SEROWLEE, GUNGAPORE, &c.

61. The arrangements reported and sanctioned in the correspondence of 1848 continue to work satisfactorily here. The two keepers, who formerly had a fifth share under the Koolkurnee, now receive it direct from me, while the remaining fifth share is carried to the credit of the contingent allowance, in return for the additional keepers continuously kept up from that fund.

However, this piece of forest will never be a good one, the trees having been so irregularly cut at different times, and all the best been gradually cleared off from the mountain cultivation, and sold by the Koolkurnee when he had charge.

In this, the second year of cutting, we undertook a portion of the forest of Amoondee. From this, about nine thousand rafters and other sticks were

obtained. These were sold at an average price of Rs. 11 to Rs. 13 per hundred, so that the whole produce was Rs. 924-11-8, balanced by an expenditure of about Rs. 117-9-0, and finally leaving the Government share of the proceeds Rs. 585-9-0.

A little more will yet be realised from sales; the whole will appear in my accounts, when ready.

GEROWLEE, MAHAL OF OWSUREE.

62. This is a very choice and flourishing piece of young forest; as it adjoins that of Amoondee, the Government keeper of the Government Gornehr forest attends to it.

The wood is yet young. I had the whole trimmed this year, at a nett expenditure of Rs. 64-8-4, the whole sum expended having been Rs. 74-8-4, and the return from firewood sales Rs. 10. The plantation contains about thirty thousand trees.

KOOKREE OR SEWNERE VALLEY.

63. The scattered Teak in the few wooded villages of the next valley shows little that is worthy of much attention. In one village only of this line have I found the trees sufficient in number to admit of a keeper being agreed with on the share principle, viz. the village of Chincholee. Further down the valley is the disputed tract of land which, by the arrangements of last season (vide letter of Government No. 5669, under date 18th September 1849), was ordered to be kept as Koorun and forest, viz. that between the villages of Beekar Wurgaum, in Poona Zilla, and Moorpundee in Zilla Ahmednuggur. I find, however, that in my absence, the local Amuldars have not enforced the order of Government, but have continued to allow the cultivation which has so long formed a subject of contention. In consequence, the Thakoor cultivators have continued their former exterminating practices, and one-third of the trees have been cut away. I have again communicated with the Collector of Ahmednuggur, in the view to having the orders of Government touching this Koorun land fully carried out.

MOOL VALLEY, CHAS, PEEPULDUREE, JOWLEH, AND BALESHWUR.

64. In this tract, the young wood (and there is none other) is mostly conserved on the share agreement principle, which here seems to work satisfactorily. On account, however, of the scattered nature of the plantations, and

the trouble caused by the obduracy of the Thakoors and others at Moorpundee, as mentioned in last paragraph, I find that I must burden the contingent allowance with a further expenditure of Rs. 4 per mensem for a ranger to move about in these villages, &c. I anticipate, however, that the profits of a cutting we may soon have at Baleshwur will leave a surplus in aid of this charge. This is a very strong tract of country, having very deep valleys, so that the tree flourishes here. In these valleys the Satin-wood tree is also found in great abundance, but does not appear to reach any size.

PLANTATIONS IN VALLEYS TO THE SOUTH OF NASSICK, ALSO IN WAREE AND DINDOREE TO THE NORTH.

65. These I had an opportunity of examining only partially this season. In some few valleys, at the back of the Aonda and Putta Hills, there is a good spread of young plantation kept up under the orders of the local officers, for I have not spare hands sufficient to attend to these scattered pieces of forest.

In Waree and Dindoree there is some promising young Teak and Tewus, but all the older trees which I have seen here are so gnarled and crooked as to be hardly worth preservation, except on the share principle, for then the keeper could turn them to account by selling them in detail. Teakwood from the lower countries, however, is so abundant here, that any which grows in the upper country can never have much value, except for the houses of the poorer classes. To them it will, from its cheapness, be important, as the hills above the Ghauts in these Talookas have been rendered very bare by continued cultivation, consequently the want of even a 6-foot stick for the roof of a house is often seriously felt.

PENTH AND HURSOOL.

66. My avocations elsewhere did not permit of my turning aside this year to examine the forests of this principality. However, in consequence of arrangements made last year, cutting was actively carried on from August to November, a certain number of villages having been allowed to fell in one season. In this forest, the old custom of the Penth State has been followed, viz. that the villagers should cut, trim, and bring to the bullock-road the wood felled. From thence the dealers take it up, paying to the Ryot a recompense for his labour, and also for the preservation of the wood. The Government share consists only in a duty levied on the old scale at the different chowkees. Of the amount of this duty, which, minus the expenses of

collection, is a credit to the Forest Department, I have as yet received no return; but from report I understand it to be considerable in amount. I forbear inserting the sum, until I can do so in unmistakeable figures.* It will appear in my accounts when rendered to the Military Board and Audit Department.

Various proposals have been made for the modification of this system of duty, but each and all of them seemed likely to cause so great confusion and loss, both to the Government and the Ryot, that the Sub-Collector and Agent concurred with me in opinion as to the impracticability of a present change, and my alteration in the mode of dealing with the wood below could not have been carried on owing to the thin population, their rude habits, and the facilities afforded for emigration to the adjacent country of Ramnuggur, whither they appear to fly on the slightest rumour of a change.

DANG FOREST UNDER SURAT DEPARTMENT.

67. With respect to this forest, for which Government pay the annual sum of Rs. 11,010, I have to observe that the supply of timber from it to the Naval Department continues steady in quantity, and within the last three years has materially improved in quality, owing to the carriers having at length been made practically to comprehend that under our mode of measurment they suffer less by chipping the logs from the ends, and leaving full girth only at the middle. They have also begun to carry at cheaper rates, owing, I think, to the practice of their having to pay a bribe, varying from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10, having been repressed. In the proceedings taken against the head Native in 1848, it may be seen that I had strong presumption for stating, as I did, that these bribes were given.

The average saving in the price of the timber delivered at the depôt this year has been seven per cent.

Mr. Harvey, the Second Assistant, has continued his labours in fixing the boundary of the forest since February, and has brought the line from Rambaj by Peepree and the Karibel forest to near Roopghur. In a part of the line he has been assisted by the officers of His Highness the Gaekwar, who met him in February. His continued presence in the forest has had the best effect in preventing the depredations on the western side, which have up to last year been carried on.

68. In a tour which I this year made through the Dangs of Amalee and Awchor, in company with Mr. Roberts, we had much pleasure in observing that the orders promulgated last season, with respect to leaving the top part

* Since received (vide Appendix B), Rs. 5,122-13-10.

of the younger Teak trees while cultivating the ground around or near to them had exerted a beneficial effect,—not that the practice has stopped, but the decrease in frequency is visible; and this gradual system of repression is all we can hope to effect.

Fines, and other stringent measures, were worse than useless with such people; therefore only in one instance, viz. that of Shindia Raja, a near relative of the Wasoorna Chief, where the offence was glaring, and accompanied by threats of violence to the forest-keeper, a partial stoppage of the rental was threatened to be enforced in case the offence were repeated.

69. It will be in the recollection of the Board and of the Government that, in May 1849, I reported my opinion as to serious depredations having been for years carried on in the Eastern Dang (landward), partly through complicity of the Soolgaum State, and partly with the connivance and countenance of the local authorities in Baglan.

Consequent on this representation, Government were pleased to appoint Captain Morris to investigate the nature and extent of this plunder.

As the inquiry, though now progressing to a close, is yet unfinished, it were not fitting that I should allude otherwise than in a general way to the results which have yet to be submitted for the ulterior opinion and judgment of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council.

There may, however, be no objection to my shortly stating that Captain Morris has accumulated a mass of documentary and other evidence, tending to show that between the years 1842 and 1847 many thousand of the best Teak trees had been felled and surreptitiously exported, chiefly from the Dangs of Wasoorna and Amalee; that even up to 1848 cutting had been actively going on, and that we were in a fair way of losing every mature Teak tree in those Dangs.

The depredators were wealthy Ryots of Baglan in Khandeish, and of Dindooree in the Sub-Collectorate of Nassick. The latter had peculiar facilities for covering the timber they exported by passes in the name and under the seal of the Soolgana Deshmook, so that in the upper country the timber passes without question as the produce of Soolgana. In other instances, it was passed direct through Baglan, partly under cover of passes from the Surat Agency, granted on the representation that the timber was old, and cut previous to the existence of the Government farm of the forests.

It is not easy to find out the mode in which these passes from Surat have been obtained. In one instance, a pass for a large quantity was granted, in the face of the opinion of the Komavisdar of Baglan, who stated that the wood, so far from being old wood, was even then standing in the forest. I conclude that a solution of the enigma may probably be found in the existence

of an under-current of collusion between the Native subordinates in the Dhoolia Collector's Office and those of the Timber Agent at Surat.

The fact of these permits to export having been granted and duly registered must have nullified all our attempts to replace, in the hands of Government, property which had really been obtained on fraudulent pretences, but for the fortunate contingency that the dealers, not content with availing themselves of the privilege which had been thus ignorantly or fraudulently conceded to them, embrace the opportunity of exporting a large quantity of wood not covered by the passes, and by so doing rendered the whole liable to forfeiture.

These are not mere assertions, but facts supported by the strongest documentary proof and oral evidence, as will by and bye be seen. For instance, in 1845-46 a long correspondence, now on the records of the Board, took place, touching a supply of timber for the Engineer Department in Khandeish. The case was referred to me, being then Acting Conservator (without any charge of the Surat Department of the Dang), for opinion. I stated that of course the Engineer Department must have a supply, but that this should be made under the immediate eye of the Timber Agent, he being directed to repair to the eastern part of the Dang for that purpose. A similar opinion was given by Captain Morris, to whom also the case had been referred.

Difficulties, however, were started, and finally the arrangement was not carried out in the manner we recommended. The consequences were such as might have been anticipated: the contractor helped himself to about nine hundred large logs, in addition to the number of the requisition, took also a quantity of Blackwood, and of broad root-logs for solid wheels, &c. Many of these still remain, stored by him and his partner, and will now of course be liable to forfeiture.

These facts speak for themselves, and show that in the Dang management, inclusive of the late excessive payment to the Surat merchants, an extensive under-current of Native official intrigue has been actively at work, to the detriment of the Government.

By the exertions of Captain Morris, Government will, I anticipate, recover a large quantity of wood, and as much of this is already in the upper country, it will be recovered without the expense of upward carriage, or in fact be repossessed in a state of enhanced value.

KEERLEE AND KURKOONDEE NAIKS, &c.

70. In making arrangements for the Dang settlement in 1843, there seems reason to believe, from what we now know, that two Dangs or Naikships

have been omitted in the settlement. On this subject, Captain Morris is now making inquiry, and I directed Mr. Roberts to take Keerlee and Kurkoondee (the seats of the said Naikships) on his route back to Surat, with a view to his making inquiry into the case. His report I had the honour to forward with my letter to the Board No. 516, under date 21st instant; and as these documents contain full particulars, the subject need not be enlarged here.

71. With respect to those Eastern Dangs generally, I would beg to state, for the information of Government, that physical obstacles intervene to prevent the Teak, especially of Amalee and Wasoorna, ever being made available for export to the coast. High ranges of mountains separate the Amalee Dang from the coast road by Garvee, and the Wasoorna Dang has obstacles of a similar kind. For this reason I beg to offer to Government a suggestion, that by establishing two timber chowkees at the Ghauts of Cheep and Veerset, a considerable annual amount would be realised, while the upper country would then receive a regular supply of wood, saleable even as far as Sattara.

In case Government were pleased to entertain this suggestion, the details could hereafter be arranged.

One essential point should be kept in view, viz. that previous to granting permission for the export of any newly cut Teak or Tewus timber, all "mhared," girdled, fallen, and dry Teak in those two Dangs must first be exported; and that to enforce the observance of this rule, two Peons from each of the two chowkees must follow and watch the persons who go from the upper country to bring wood. Of this dead and half dead timber there is much in Amalee and Wasoorna. I do not mean to include in it three hundred fine logs, ready squared for export, which Mr. Roberts and myself had occasion to see in Amalee Dang last month, and for bringing which to the upper country I have already arranged by means of the separate sum sanctioned by Government, viz. Rs. 4,500, in July last.

The dead and mhared wood once cleared from the forest, a system of regular expenditure can be begun, but not safely till then. In the first instance, some charge must necessarily be incurred by the establishment of the two chowkees in question; but I apprehend that from sales of forfeited and confiscated wood we shall have a fund sufficient to warrant the basing of an expenditure thereon, particularly as the said expenditure is not likely to remain long a dead weight.

72. It is satisfactory to remark the quiet and orderly conduct of the Dang Bheels and their Chiefs. In my late visit to the Dang, the precautions necessary

for the protection of followers and baggage were fewer than those required in the up-country.

At the annual meeting with the Chiefs, which took place in May, the assembly was numerous, peaceable, and contented. In fact, on the whole, it appears to me that the annual payment made to the Chiefs is about the cheapest and most satisfactory arrangement that could be devised for keeping the peace in that wild country. The subject of the deduction of Rs. 500 from the payment made to the Sawee Raja, on account of Karibel forest, was not brought forward.

NORTHERN TIMBER DEPARTMENT.

73. In the present report I have not gone into the details of the Northern Timber Department for the past season. In fact, I have not the means of doing so, as, owing to the absence of the First Assistant Conservator on duty with me, he could neither make up the accounts nor conclude the sales for May until his return to Surat.

His transactions, therefore, must form the subject of an after report, which is perhaps otherwise desirable, as the present report has already extended to a good length.

TUPPA WAJPORE, PURGUNA NOWAPOORA; DISPUTED TIMBER.

74. The question of the timber felled in the Wajpore Tuppa of Nowapoora, in Khandeish, and the right of property in forty-three villages of that Mahal, first mooted by Mr. G. Inverarity, and subsequently noticed in the letter of the Secretary to Government in the Political Department, under date 15th September 1849 (accompanied by an extract of a letter from the Acting Resident at Baroda), remains yet undetermined, and I have not yet been informed that any evidence has been adduced, sufficient to rebut the strong testimony afforded by the Baglan records, as shown by Mr. Inverarity, and subsequently that brought forward by me in extracts from the Poona Duftur.

The wood in the disputed Tuppas remains, I believe, under attachment; and I lately caused a Peon to be despatched, for the purpose of seeing whether it remained untouched. It were very desirable that the question should be settled, as, if I mistake not, it has been now for nearly three years under reference.

75. The arrangements consequent on the separate sanction of Rs. 4,500,

granted last year, for the bringing of felled timber from the Dang, must also necessarily form the subject of a separate paper. As these are still in progress, and cannot be brought to conclusion this season, suffice it at present to state my conviction that they, when reported, will show that the disbursement has not been unprofitable.

SATPOORA HILL FOREST.

76. I should now notice the forest countries in the Satpoora range, extending from Sooltanpoor to Rawere. I have not had time, however, even to look at these this season, therefore what I could say of them would consist merely of second-hand, and often imperfect information, communicated by a Karkoon whom I despatched thither in the end of February.

Regarding the forest regulations, as attempted in those countries, some correspondence has already taken place between the Bheel Agents, the Collector of Khandeish, the Government, and this Department.

I have all along advocated the necessity of great caution and much previous inquiry, in attempting to introduce any regulations regarding wood in such a country. On this head the authorities in Khandeish and myself have continued in unison of action, and I believe that my last communication to the Collector (as embodied in Murathee yad No. 11, under date 5th instant) may, if handled by the Native Amuldars in the same letter and spirit in which it was penned, suffice entirely to remove any impression which the people may have taken up, as to the Government attempting to interfere with their means of subsistence.

KOLWAN, ZILLA TANNA.

77. In the present report I have not attended to this division of my charge, because I have had no time once to visit it.

From the various reports, however, which I from time to time have received from the Amuldars, and from the Department forest-keepers stationed there, I have every reason to think that the arrangements are good, and well seconded by the local officers. I hope in the course of the season to be able to devote some time to this province, and to have it in my power to mature (in communication with the Collector of Tanna) a plan for beginning the expenditure of the Teak forest here for private purposes.

For public purposes the wood required from here is chiefly crooked timber, and of this much (as stated in former reports) has been rendered unfit for naval use, owing to the injudicious system of close pruning and cutting away.

78. Since December, I have had employed in Kolwan a Dockyard carpenter, for procuring knees of large size, and crooks. I have not yet had a full report of his proceedings, and of the expenses attending them; therefore I had better defer noticing any of the details until I forward the forest report for the Northern Department, as the subject will be more germane to the contents of the latter.

BEDEE TALOOKA, AND FOREST BEYOND.

79. Regarding the forest of the Bedee Talooka of the Belgaum Collectorate, I cannot speak from personal observations of the present season. I have, however, been in communication with the Collector, Mr. Reeves, on the subject, and also with Captain Wingate, regarding the extent of the forest in the Talooka to be appropriated as a preserve under the new survey arrangements.

With Mr. Reeves, the correspondence has embraced two subjects, viz. the regulation of Koomree or hill cultivation, and the necessity for opening some part of the Soonda forest for a supply of Teak to Belgaum and its neighbourhood. On the latter point, I have placed myself in communication with the Collector of Mangalore.

Difficulties do exist as to placing an efficient and trustworthy chowkee on the Madras border, where the road leads to Dharwar and Belgaum; and recent experience has shown the unhappy issue of the general arrangements proposed in the letter of the Supreme Government No. 1616, under date 18th November 1848, as the Native Conservator had not been many months appointed when he began to appropriate to his own private purposes a large quantity of the best wood of the forest.

In whatever way, however, the difficulty as to trustworthy agency is to be surmounted, it appears to me plain that our southern countries must have a supply of Teak from this forest.

80. Before concluding this report, I notice the branch of my duties subordinate to that of charge of the Teak forests (I mean the superintendence of the Babool kooruns on the Bheema and Moota Moola rivers). As the increase in the number of those by the falling in to Government of several extensive preserves required a modification, and some increase of establishments, this formed the subject of a correspondence, through the Collector of Poona and Revenue Commissioner Southern Division, last season.

Circumstances having occurred to defer the conclusion of the final arrangements until nearly the end of December 1849, the plans for the season's work were necessarily somewhat hasty and imperfect. I have, however, reason to believe that we shall be able to show in good time a good nett profit, after

defraying the annual charge. Particulars will be given on the conclusion of the sales, which are still in progress.

Up to 17th June the transactions will be found in Appendix B, showing a nett return of Rs. 546-13-8.

81. I now beg to subjoin a list of villages containing Teak forest, for which agreements have been up to this date concluded. (Vide Appendix A.)

82. In conclusion, I trust it may appear from the foregoing report, that while endeavouring to provide for the trimming and conservation of the various pieces of forest reported on, I have done so, as far as possible, by raising from them a fund sufficient to liquidate the floating expenses entailed by these operations, while the main efforts of the Conservator continue directed to keeping up a regular and increasing supply of Teak and other valuable timber.

I intended, as soon as possible, to forward, for the information of Government and for audit by the Military Board, a full account of receipts and disbursements for the season. In the mean time I beg to offer the approximate sketch (vide Appendix B) of nett receipts.

Further, I beg to say that I hope ere long to forward a drawn sketch, by which the various routes and jungles mentioned in this report can be readily traced.

PROPOSED DEPOT AT BOMBAY.

83. It is right that, before closing this paper, I should mention the reasons for my having kept in abeyance the plan formerly sanctioned for having a Teak depôt in Bombay, particularly as, in February last, the Collector of Land Revenue placed at my disposal a piece of ground under Malabar Hill.

The fact is, that the numerous arrangements required on the Dang border of Khandeish, and the arrangements for bringing up, lotting, and selling much squared timber which was or yet remains in the Dang, have taken up all the time which I could possibly spare from other avocations, and as it seemed probable that, in the ensuing season, these duties will be fully more extensive and important than they may have yet been, I felt desirous not to hamper myself by undertaking depôt arrangements in a quarter where they must be in the outset very expensive, and when I could not have given them personal superintendence.

I am happy to say that no preliminary arrangements, beyond the making over the ground, had been entered on, so that no expenditure whatever has been incurred.

NAVAL TIMBER FROM KOLWAN FOREST.

84. In the report I have alluded to the supply of crooked timber and knees under preparation in the forest inland of Bassein and Mahim. Operations here have occupied the whole of the fair season.

I determined on this occasion to try the system of supply at first-hand by the agency of a carpenter, and, in as far as I can yet see, I am of opinion that the result will be a considerable saving as compared to the former system of supply.

The number of crooks and knees supplied to the Dockyard from November to the end of May is crooks and knees 516, smaller or boat-crooks 29.

85. The details of expenditure and receipt will appear on the accounts of the Northern Department, to which I have made the accounts over.

ALEXANDER GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

Hewra, 25th June 1850.

APPENDIX A.

Return of Villages conserved on the Partnership Principle.

Zilla.	Talooka, and Name of Village.	Year.	Share.	Remarks.
Poona.	*Talooka Kheir.*			
	Ambegaum Mahal,—			
	Mahaloonga Khoord	1848	½	
	Deembeh Boodrook	..	½	
	Gungapore Khoord	..	½	
	Sal	1849	½	Conditional; to be void in case of Inamdar producing his Sunud, and establishing his claim to the wood.
	Deembeh Khoord	1848	½	
	Talooka Hewalee.			
	Peta Donja,—			
	Nandoosee	1848	¼	
	Sonapore	1850	¼	
	Koomoosee	..	¼	
	Aglumba	..	¼	
	Arvee	..	¼	
	Waganee	..	¼	
	Camera	1848	⅛	
	Dewree	1849	¼	
	Talooka Poorundhur.			
	Hurgoree	1848	⅛	
	Talooka Ambegaum.			
	Nandeh	..	½	
	Talooka Sewnere.			
	Mahal Brahmin Wara,—			
	Koteh Boodrook	1848	⅛	
	Jowleh Baleshwur	1848	⅛	
	Lingdheo	..	⅛	
	Chas Peepulduree	..	¼	
	Sawurgaum	..	⅛	
	Koteh Khoord	..	⅛	

Zilla.	Talooka, and Name of Village.	Year.	Share.	Remarks.
Poona (contd.).	Talooka Kheir	..	1/3	
	Tullowreh	1848	1/3	
	Turwul	1849	1/3	
	Wajouneh	1848	1/4	
	Daunkwarh	1849	1/4	
	Kogalee	1848	1/4	
	Washuck	..	1/4	
	Koohoo	..	1/4	
	Koorkundee	..	1/4	
Tanna.	*Talooka Nusrapore.*			
	Khandpe	1849	1/4	
	Talooka Panwell.			
	Tanke Waree	1849	1/3	
	Talooka Rajpooree.			
	Peta Tulleh,—			
	Doongrowlee	1849	1/4	
	Roodowlee	..	1/4	
	Patnoos	..	1/3	
	Madpowlee	..	1/3	
	Morbeh	..	1/3	
	Soorghur	1848	1/3	
	Aeen Mahal	..	1/3	
	Tamunset	..	1/3	
	Brimheh	..	1/3	
	Kanduleh	1848	1/3	
	Polee Khoord	..	1/3	
	Poolee	1849	1/3	
	Khamb	1849	1/4	
	Ryghur Talooka.			
	Doongrowlee	1849	1/3	
	Goregaum Peta—			
	Panulghur	1849	1/3	
	Pullusgaum Boodrook	..	1/3	
	Maungrool	..	1/3	
	Wahaseh	..	1/3	
	Kekowlee	..	1/3	

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX B.

Showing, by Approximate Estimate, a Summary of Expenditure and Returns from Sundry Pieces of Forest thinned, &c. in 1849-50.

		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
I. SINGHUR, Zilla POONA.	Expenditure	781 6 10	Return from sales up to 5th June, including balance outstanding under security..	1801 14 4
	Total return	1801 14 4		
	Nett profit..	1020 7 6	Total..	1801 14 4
II. KEKVEE, Talooka POORUNDHUR, Zilla POONA.	Expenditure	536 6 1	Returns from sales..	995 11 4
	Gross return	1095 11 4	Estimated value of 150 crooks reserved for Naval Department per report, deducting carriage expense.....	100 0 0
	Nett profit..	559 5 3	Gross return..	1095 11 4
III. CHAS KUMAN, Zilla POONA.	Expenditure	212 13 6	Gross returns	1056 15 11
			Deduct expenditure..	212 13 6
	Total..	212 13 6	Nett return..	844 2 5
IV. AMOONDEE, Zilla POONA.	Expenditure, being three-fifths of whole.	117 9 0	Government share of gross proceeds, including balance outstanding under security.....	703 2 0
			Deduct expenditure..	117 9 0
	Total..	117 9 0	Nett return..	585 9 0
V. TULLOWREH, Zilla POONA.	Expenditure	9 0 9	Total receipts and expenditure	129 6 5
			Deduct keeper's one-third share.....	42 7 5
	Total..	9 0 9	Nett payt. to Treasury	86 15 0

		Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
VI. Adholee, Zilla Poona.	Cutting by the purchaser under superintendence of forest Peon	....			Price by contract of the trees in the ravine. .	65	0	0
		....			Nett return..	65	0	0
VII. Gerowlee, Zilla Poona.	Expenses	74	8	4	Sales of firewood	10	0	0
		10	0	0				
	Nett balance to debit.	84	8	4	Total..	10	0	0
VIII. Tanna Collectorate, Sag Baree..	Expenditure	33	12	3	Gross returns	80	0	0
					Deduct expenditure ..	33	12	3
	Total..	33	12	3	Nett return..	46	3	9
IX. Lodewlee, Zilla Tanna.	Expenditure.....	122	6	8	Returns	40	0	0
		40	0	0				
	Nett balance to debit.	82	6	8	Total..	40	0	0
X. Nigrolee, Zilla Tanna.	Expenditure	271	8	0	Gross returns	631	8	0
					Deduct expenditure ..	271	8	0
	Total..	271	8	0	Nett return..	360	0	0
XI. Warsae and Manikghur, Zilla Tanna.	Expenditure	175	5	9	Gross returns	551	15	0
					Deduct expenditure ..	175	5	9
	Total..	175	5	9	Nett return..	376	9	3
XII. Kondvee, Pabul, Zilla Tanna.	Expenditure, including sundry shipping charges to Bombay.	694	2	5	Gross returns, inclusive of recoveries to be made from Naval Department	1547	8	0
					Deduct expenditure ..	694	2	5
	Total..	694	2	5	Nett return..	853	5	7
XIII. Daolee, Zilla Tanna.	Expenditure, including sundry shipping charges.....	281	14	6	Gross returns, including recoveries to be made from Naval Depart.	1431	12	3
					Deduct expenditure ..	281	14	6
	Total..	281	14	6	Nett return..	1149	13	9

		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
XIV. Anjerla, Zilla Rutnagherry.	Expenditure, including shipping charges to Bombay	413 15 1	Gross returns, including recoveries to be made from Commissariat and Naval Departments	2684 5 7
			Deduct expenditure ..	413 15 1
	Total..	413 15 1	Nett return..	2270 6 6
XV. Parnera, Zilla Surat.	Expenditure	148 13 0	Gross returns	92 3 0
	Deduct returns	92 3 0		
	Balance to debit ..	56 10 0	Total..	92 3 0
XVI. Babool Plantation, Bheemthuree, Zilla Poona.	Nett expenditure in trimming	200 0 0	Gross returns from thinning up to 17th June.	504 2 0
			Amount of farm of Babool seeds	242 12 0
				746 14 0
			Deduct expenditure ..	200 0 4
			Nett return, including annual charge of keepers	546 13 8
	Total..	200 0 0		
XVII. Suwusthan Colaba.	Expenditure on transport of timber to Naval Department..	606 5 4	Gross returns	1741 9 8
			Deduct cost of transport of Naval timber.	606 5 4
	Total...	606 5 4	Nett return..	1135 4 4
	[I do not gather from the return how the expense of felling is provided for.]		[N.B.—The return is for the whole of 1849.]	
XVIII. Suwusthan Penth and Hursool.	Expenditure.—[There is here, I believe, no extra expenditure, as the Karkoons are kept up throughout the season for collection of duty on the other exports of the Raj.]		Receipts from duties, November 1849 to May 1850.....	5122 13 10
			Total..	5122 13 10
	One Karkoon of my establishment, at Rs. 15 per month, employed there since 1st November, ought to appear as a charge; but this having been defrayed from the contingent allowance, there seems no necessity for mentioning it here, particularly as the recovery thereof must require a separate sanction, the Penth receipts having, I presume, been carried to account as revenue. It, however, may be that on account of the share of revenue enjoyed by the ex-Ranee, it might be deemed proper that I should prefer it, but otherwise I will not do so.			

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,

Conservator of Forests.

Abstract of the Summary. *Cr.*

	Rs.	a.	p.
Singhur	1,120	7	6
Kekvee	559	5	3
Chas Kuman	844	2	5
Amoondee	585	9	0
Tullowreh	80	3	1
Adholee	65	0	0
Sag Baree, Tanna	46	3	9
Nigrowlee	360	0	0
Warsae and Manikghur	376	9	3
Darolee	1,149	13	9
Anjerla	2,270	6	6
Babool Koorun of Bheemthuree	546	13	8
Colaba, Alibagh	1,135	4	4
Penth, Hursool	5,122	13	10
Total receipts.... Rs.	14,262	12	4

Deduct loss in thinning,—

Lodewlee	Rs.	82	6	8	
Gerowlee		64	8	4	
Parnera		56	10	0	
					203 9 0
Total.... Rs.					14,059 3 4

Expenditure.—Native conservation and establishments for the forests of the several Zillas, including Belgaum and Penth, including the Dang for 1849-50, at Rs. 153-12-0 per month 1845 0 0

Ditto of Colaba	648	0	0
Ditto of Bheemthuree, as per last Government sanction of December 1849	432	0	0
Rs.	2,925	0	0
Total receipts ..... Rs.	14,059	3	4
Total nett balance to credit.... Rs.	11,134	3	4

N. B.—In the above accounts there is no entry of the crooks and knees. furnished from Kolwan, as these will appear in the credit of the Northern Department.

2. No return is furnished of the sums realised by the different local officers in Tanna and other Zillas. From these sources, the balance to credit may be expected to be finally somewhat larger than that here given.

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

REPORT FOR 1850-51.

REPORT FOR 1850-51.

CHAPTER I.

COMPRISING THE COUNTRY ABOVE THE GHAUTS.

THE work of the year commenced with August 1850, as the nature of the season, owing to deficient rain, was such that travelling, even in hilly districts above the Ghauts, was more than usually practicable.

FOREST PIECES ON THE MOOL RIVER, TEAK AND JAMBOOL.

2. Accordingly, the detached pieces of forest which cover the hills of the villages on each side of the Mool river, and lie partly in the Talooka of Sewnere, and partly in that of Ankola, the latter belonging to Ahmednuggur, were first inspected.

3. These preserves will be found noticed in my Forest Report for 1849-50, paragraph 64. Regarding them, I may state, from what I saw in August 1850, that there is a possibility of thinning them by the proceeds of sales.

4. Without, however, being very sanguine on this point, I mean to make an experiment this year in the villages of Baleshwur. Here, as indeed in most of those Mool river villages, the Teak plantation is thickly studded on the sides of the several gullies which open on the Mool river, to which each gully conveys its stream, and this formation of the country is found from Rajoor downwards as far as Sawurgaum, situated on the same river.

The tables of the hills, where the soil is a rich black loam, contain no Teak trees, but much of jungle-wood fit for fuel.

5. The gullies above mentioned, opening on the deep streamed Mool river, carry down with them much rich soil, portions of which, thrown aside by the eddies of the stream, form choice beds for the growth of the Water-jambool, which here and there forms luxuriant copses, under and on the high banks. The wood growing in these copses is much valued as a durable roof timber, and

this fact, joined to the circumstance of the self-formed plantation continually varying in extent and boundaries with the caprice of the stream, has, doubtless, in the first instance, led to the establishment of the river trees as the property of the State; and since the revival of our Forest Regulations, their value having been more appreciated than was the case some fifteen years ago, they are (except in the few cases of unquestionable private claim, which we at all times respect), attended to as part and parcel of the State forest.

FOREST NORTH OF THE MOOL RIVER.

6. On the northern slopes of the mountains which divide the valley of the Mool from that of the Pruwera, Teak forest is more thinly scattered, and is found only in a few of the Durras or valleys towards Pemgerry, &c.; but in the still more rugged country which is continued until the slope into the Darna valley, there is a considerable sprinkling of young forest, beginning at Baree, under the mountain Kulsabaee, and stretching into the gorges formed between the hills of Aonda and Putta. The trees are, however, very thinly scattered, as compared to those in the western division of the Poona Collectorate, a circumstance partly due to natural causes, but perhaps more to the sequestered nature of the country removing it further from official observation.

7. Something also of the want is doubtless owing to our not having, till now, had the means of organising a forest establishment of an extent at all suitable to the wants of the country to be conserved.

More lately, recoveries of outstanding disbursements from Penth and other places have enabled me to take measures for having such pieces of forest as are to be found in this quarter accurately noted, so that on the opening of the fair season I can bring them within the range of our regular establishment.

8. A Karkoon and Peon were despatched on the 22nd of June to view all the detached forest patches in the Talookas of Ankola, Sungumnair, Kownaee, and Dindoree.

9. A few years of regular supervision will doubtless be attended with the same good results as have appeared in the Poona Zilla.

DINDOREE FOREST PIECES.

10. Of the Dindoree forest pieces, I would say, that while much of the young wood on the hills will grow up into trees useful at least for the roofs of buildings, the greater part of that in the plain, such as is found in the wastes between Chowsaleh and Amba Winkheera, will be fit wood for cart-wheels or the charcoal-burner.

11. In this, the Dindoree Talooka, the wood is also much more scattered than is the case in our older preserves to the south.

KOWNAEE.

12. Of the Kownaee Talooka I will only remark that I have not visited it for eleven years, and, therefore, cannot say whether it contains any young forest worth conserving; but of this, as of the neighbouring Talooka of Nassick, and Mahal of Trimbuk, I will here only repeat what I have mentioned elsewhere, viz. that the system of farming the mountain lands, unaccompanied by a provision for forest reserves on each village, or circle of villages, has done much to bare that part of the country of the little forest which remained.

13. Thus much for the country extending from the Brahminwara to the Chandore range of hills.

That more northerly, viz. in the Khandeish bounds, will be noticed along with the northern forests generally.

BABOOL PRESERVES ON THE BHEEMA AND MOOTA MOOLA RIVERS, AND OTHERS IN THE VICINITY.

14. To an inspection of these a part of the month of October was devoted.

The conservation arrangements as regards these preserves have been in operation since early in 1847, and, by the liberality of Government, the conservative means have been extended by the additional grant of Rs. 6 per mensem, made from December 1849, so that now the establishment is sufficiently ample for the preserves as they then stood; the addition of several new pieces of forest has extended the range of the keepers, and I am of opinion that on this account a further addition of Rs. 5 per mensem is required, an increase likely to be more than compensated by the returns.

15. The pieces of forest added are those of Taklee on the Bheema, that of Aptee, a part of Phoolgaum waste land, forest in the lower part of the Kasoordee grounds, and ground of a similar description in the bounds of Nangaum; also, should we succeed in recovering to the State the rather extensive inroad which has years ago been made into the bounds of the Koorun of Pargaum, on the Bheema, by a grant nominally for cultivation, the quantity of forest to be looked after will be still more increased.

16. Since 1847, the preserves of Peepulgaum, Wuroo Boodrook, of Dongurgaum, of Tullegaum Damdera, and about one-third of Walkee, have been thinned with benefit as regards the value of the grass of the preserves, and the return obtained from thinnings sold.

17. Of Peepulgaum the thinning has not been so complete as I could have wished, so that in another year a part of it must be done over again; but, indeed, there the river vegetation is so luxuriant as to render it likely that this thinning must under any circumstances have again taken place.

18. The portion added to the Koorun of Tullegaum (Damdera) consists of land which has for many years been waste, principally from its being of a nature so clayey and adhesive as to be penetrable only by a very full supply of rain; and as its thorough impregnation by water is mostly contingent on the heavy rain which falls in October and November, the comparative uncertainty of a full supply renders the taking up of the ground in April an experiment too perilous for the cultivator. For this reason, the land seems likely to remain waste, and is thus more profitably kept as forest than sold for mere grazing.

WASTE NUMBERS IN KASOORDEE.

19. The addition of some large waste numbers in the lower part of the Kasoordee land has been made under circumstances nearly similar. These numbers contain a quantity of Babool trees of a large size. Cultivators were found ready enough to undertake their cultivation, giving an agreement for a limited period,—speculating, in fact, on the value of the wood which they would have cut down; but an agreement to keep up the cultivation for ten years having been declined, the course most for the benefit of Government was deemed to be that of retaining them as preserves.

20. In case, however, of the tank at Kasoordee ever being repaired, these numbers will be given up for the more profitable purpose of garden cultivation.

KHANGAUM.

21. The thinning of the extensive Babool forest at Khangaum has been deferred until the completion of the road from Patus to Poona, as on this event taking place the value of the thinned wood will be immediately enhanced.

22. In the course of last season we cleared away a quantity of Caper and other bush, which interfered with the growth of the better trees. A profit of Rs. 27 was realised, the expenditure being Rs. 3, instead of a loss (as was anticipated) being incurred.

23. In keeping entire the bounds of this forest, much difficulty and trouble have been experienced, from the violent and irregular conduct of the villages of Sadulgaum, a neighbouring inam, the property of Rastia Saheb.

24. The boundary stones as fixed by the late survey were thrown down, and removed by these villagers.

In November last, the Inamdar requested the Collector (through the Agent for Sirdars) to allow a decision of boundaries by Punchayet, limiting their time to one month, as the question involved the integrity of the forest. I requested of the Collector to allow a Karkoon from this department to be present at the Punchayet as Assessor. With this request the Collector at once complied.

25. The Karkoon was despatched, the members of the Punchayet on the part of the Government were warned and ready; but from the other party none appeared, and the Karkoon was detained for fifteen days over the period fixed, in expectation of their attendance, but in vain. Accordingly, the Collector decided (vide letter 4th December, No. 3363) that in consequence of Rastia's men having failed to attend, "the case is, I conclude, decided, and the boundaries remain as fixed by the survey."

26. I mention the case here as attempts have been lately made to re-open the question, and the boundary stones are reported to have been again removed. It may be a question whether, in cases of contumacy so open and continued, it might not be better to provide the Inamdar with an inam elsewhere, rather than suffer the continual annoyance and injury resulting from such attempts at forcible possession.

PARGAUM.

27. Government were pleased, in the early part of this season, to sanction the measure of employing a Hungamee Karkoon to fix the bounds of Babool Kooruns and forest preserves, according to the old wuhee wat. The Karkoon employed by me sent up (*inter alia*) a report on the Koorun of Pargaum, a large portion of which had been years ago taken up by a Deshpandia for cultivation, but practically for appropriation, on account of the grazing and the wood, from both of which he derives large profits. The case is still under reference to the Collector, and therefore need not be now enlarged on here.

RIVER GROUND AT TEK KHAMGAUM, AND HINGUNGAUM.

28. On my visit to the Babool forests last year, I had occasion to remark that in several of them were extensive patches of the richest ground, mostly bordering on the river, and exterior to the tree part of the preserves.

29. Most of this ground, being new, was not *meeras*, but was quietly appropriated by a few individuals at survey rates. The subject I brought to the notice of higher authority, and the result has been (vide letter of Collector of Poona, 19th May, and that of Revenue Commissioner Southern Division,

27th idem) that such lands here, as well as in other similar situations throughout the Collectorate, are now regularly disposed of by annual auction sale.

30. Under this rate, some pieces of river land, which were cultivated, or rather sub-let to cultivators, by Koolkurnees and others holding them, pay their full value to the State.

31. One instance I mention from common report: the river land at Khamgaum Tek, paying till last season Rs. 1-8-0 to Government, now pays Rs. 20; in fact, land of this description is very valuable, being virgin soil, fit for the raising of the best crops.

WALKEE.

32. The thinning of this Koorun has been completed to about one-third, leaving two-thirds to be done.

The nett profit realised was, as may be seen from the accompanying accounts, good.

DONGURGAUM.

33. The thinning of the Dongurgaum Koorun was completed.

Here also the nett profit was good. The trees left in both of these preserves are of the best and largest description.

APTEE.

34. Here the thinning was the subject of a separate sanction of Rs. 95, as the wood and the grass were so choked with prickly-pear bushes that the value of both was materially impaired.

Under these circumstances, it was found necessary to begin by clearing away this, and afterwards the regular thinning was proceeded with. The nett return much exceeded expectation, and a considerable part of the sanctioned amount remained applicable to thinning the preserved numbers in the adjacent village of Wuroo Boodrook.

Here also the profit was good.

35. Throughout the range of these preserves the sales of Babool pods to the shepherds realised Rs. 268, exhibiting an increase of Rs. 26 as compared with 1849-50, and this after deducting the preserves of Rahoo and Boorkeegaum, both of which have been alienated by a life-grant made to the Inamdar who formerly held them.

Expended in thinning .. Rs.	320	6	4
Sales of wood and Babool seeds.....	1,227	10	8
Rs.	907	4	4

AHMEDNUGGUR RIVER KOORUNS.

36. On the whole, the anticipations (vide correspondence of December 1846) of ultimate profit from the conservation of these Babool Forests have been fully realised, so that the grounds for extending a similar system to the river Kooruns of the Ahmednuggur Collectorate are solid.

37. The subject of a system of conservation for these is now under the consideration of the Collector.

38. On referring to a letter addressed by Government to the Military Board, and bearing date 15th November 1845, it will be seen that the gradual extension of the forest arrangements was then anticipated and enjoined. It is of course out of the question to expect that these can be matured and carried out throughout the Presidency at once.

DISPUTED BOUNDS OF TOOLAPORE AND BOWREH.

39. Regarding the appropriation of the land belonging to these, and also of two villages in the Mahal of Soopa for grass and forest, arrangements are at present in progress, and on the completion of these they will be handed up for the consideration of the Collector.

40. Leaving the plains of the Bheema and Moota Moola river, the rugged country containing the Teak forest around and under the fort of Poorundhur was visited, comprising the Teak preserves of Kekvee, Mandhur, Bongowlee, Hurgoonreh, Pangara, and Dunkowree. These have been somewhat particularly noticed in my last report, paragraph 66.

41. Thinning has been carried on in Kekvee for the second season, but the obstacles to the export of the material, as noticed in my last report, joined to the very indifferent crops of the past year, have contributed to leaving half of the produce on hand, so that the amount realised has hardly exceeded that expended.

Receipts	Rs.	773	7 2
Expenditure		696	2 5
Difference.....	Rs.	77	4 7

42. Many of the older crooked trees have been cut down, while those of a more hopeful character have been trimmed, to the number of about ten thousand.

43. At the present rate of progress, it seems probable that the thinning may yet be continued for four or five years, if not more, as much of Kekvee yet remains, and the wood in Mandhur, Dunkowree, and Bongowlee remains untouched.

44. The Teakwood in a part of the village of Pangara seems to have been appropriated by the Patel in his inam, in a way regarding which I have not been able to satisfy myself that he is not usurping the right which belongs to Government.

This seemed to be the opinion of Lieutenant Evans when he surveyed the village in 1845 or 1846.

45. There have been many depredations in these Poorundhur Teak preserves, partly owing to the character of the people, and partly from the facilities afforded for plunder by the vicinity of the Teak villages in the grounds of the Punt Suchew.

46. The question of property in the Teak of those preserves, mooted in paragraph 48 of my last report, remains yet undecided, and notwithstanding the prohibition of the Collector as to cutting Teak by either party until this question was finally settled, the Ryots of some of those villages have not only cut down and sold a quantity from their gaeran, but have shown a somewhat suspicious readiness to come forward with statements that wood found cut in our villages had been purchased from them.

47. The present Komavisdar having been employed in districts lower down in the country, does not appear to be aware of the numerous subterfuges and circumventions had recourse to by the wood-stealers in these western districts, and most certainly thefts have considerably increased during his short incumbency.

DEOREE, KANARA, AND ARVEE.

48. Of these villages, the two first were noticed in my report of last year. Since then I have received an agreement from the Patels of Deoree for the conservation of the Teak in that village, also from certain persons of Arvee.

In both there is a moderate sprinkling of wood in the gullies and clefts of the hills.

49. Up to the present season, the tenure of it was most uncertain, as a large portion in the most sheltered situations was claimed by Ryots as being adjacent to their fields,—therefore, under the new survey arrangements, their property.

However, since the publication of the supplemental Survey Rules, dated respectively 23rd and 27th May 1851, such claims will cease, and we shall thus have an opportunity of retaining, for the benefit of the village and of Government, a piece of useful village forest, which, under other circumstances, must have soon disappeared.

SINGHUR GHERA FOREST.

50. In my former reports I have gone into considerable detail regarding this forest piece, so that now little need be added.

51. The practice of breaking the top-shoots of the trees for the sake of the leaves appears to have fallen into disuse. I did not this year observe that it had in a single instance occurred.

52. Cultivation continues to be carried on in parts of the forest (where the right is of ancient usage) without any injury to the trees, nay often with benefit.

53. The thinning during this, the eighth season in which it has been carried on, extended to the extreme eastern part of the forest, where it bounds with the village forest of Nandoosee.

54. As the thinning of this portion did not occupy nearly the whole of the working season, the labourers were moved to the western side, viz. the Khamgaum bounds, and a part of Khanapoor, formerly left unfinished on account of a claim put forth by the Ramosees of Khanapoor, but now rebutted under the late resolution of Government, May 23rd, 1851.

55. The Khamgaum forest having in it much old gnarled wood, the latter, owing to its exposure to the force of the monsoon, caused somewhat more of expenditure in the removal of the sticks, owing to their great toughness; but many promising straight trees were at the same time trimmed, and of the older wood a portion was disposed of for cart-pieces, and a part was sawn into plank. A considerable portion of the thinning of the season remains on hand, chiefly from the nature of the past season not having afforded the Ryots the means of making purchases from any distance; added to this, that the comparative scarcity of bullock forage operated in no small degree towards the exclusion of more distant purchasers.

56. There appears to remain of forest in this Ghera sufficient for a thinning of two if not of three seasons more.

57. Contrasting the actual proceeds with those which would have been realised had the offer made by the merchant in 1843 been accepted is sufficiently instructive as to the value of a piece of Teak forest (be it ever, as this is, in rocky soil) near to a large city.

58. It will be observed that the offer of the merchant embraced three forests, each of which has been separately thinned, with a most respectable amount of profit. The following are the details; and the merchant's offer embraced, if I remember, three years as the period to be allowed him for his operation,—but as I cannot at this moment lay my hand on the Government letter touching the offer, I state this from memory.

Table exhibiting the Nett Returns from three Pieces of Teak Forest since 1843-44, *up to June* 1851.

SINGHUR.

Amount realised by thinnings for eight seasons ..	Rs.	12,254	12	5			
Deduct expenditure for the same period		4,912	4	8			
					7,342	7	9

CHAS KUMAN.

Five seasons, gross return	Rs.	3,310	8	3			
Deduct expenditure		1,408	6	7			
					1,892	1	8

AMOONDEE, &C.

Three seasons, Sindowlee gross return	Rs.	2,081	3	7			
Deduct expenditure		494	9	0			
					1,586	10	7
Total amount of nett returns from the three forest pieces	Rs.				10,821	4	0

It should be borne in mind that in the mode of thinning, as conducted under the immediate agency of the Conservator's establishment, the quantity of wood left in the forest is very much greater than what would have been the case had the forest thinning been handed over to a contractor, however well watched the latter might have been.

Expenditure at Singhur in 1850-51, including a fraudulent item of Rs. 83 (recoverable) now in deposit with Mahalkuree of Donja..	Rs.	617	14	9			
Proceeds of sales, &c. as per return of Mahalkuree.....		1,533	14	10			
Nett profit	Rs.				816	0	1

59. The persons whom I had deputed for the thinning of the forest this year made a bold attempt fraudulently to appropriate a considerable sum from the returns.

60. Having from early in December been led, owing to the marked difference between their early receipts and those of former seasons, to suspect that there was something unsound in the proceedings, I kept my ears open, and afterwards, on my arrival at Bulsar from Sind, I wrote to the Police Amuldar, directing him to seize the records and papers, and to make a simultaneous search.

61. This officer, Ragho Gopal, acted with the most praiseworthy promptitude, the result of which was that not only did he gain from the papers a clue to the suppressed items of receipt, but seized a secret deposit, supposed to have been ready for division after the Hoolee holidays, comprising nearly, if not wholly, the items supposed to have been stolen.

62. The guilty parties are now undergoing a sentence of imprisonment with hard labour, adjudged by the Sessions Court at Poona.

63. The effect of an exposure of this kind, followed as it was by prompt and just punishment, and a decree for the restoration to Government of the abstracted property, is most salutary, as a warning to others.

64. Jungle thefts, committed by parties in charge, are comparatively difficult, owing to the number of persons who necessarily have cognisance of at least a part of what is going on; and moreover, the spirit of jealousy and envy, which work so strongly among many members of the Native community, render attempts at fraud, which might in an office be conducted with comparative secrecy and safety, less likely to be successful.

PRESERVES AROUND POONA TO THE WEST.

65. Of these I spoke in some detail in paragraph 52 of my report of last year. I visited several of them in the latter part of October 1850, and had no reason to be dissatisfied with the state in which I found them. The Teak in all of them is yet small sized, and cannot be brought to any use for six or seven years to come.

66. The same may be said of the Sandalwood, of which there are about five hundred trees in the preserve of Kopra. The question of property on the Koorun of Aglamba, or Agalmeh, mentioned in paragraph 53 of my report of 1849-50, has been decided, and the preserve remains in the hands of Government.

67. Two of the Patels have given a local agreement for conservation, and the state of the young forest is reported to be satisfactory.

TEAK AND JAMBOOL PRESERVES IN AMBEGAUM TALOOKA, WEST OF POONA.

68. In paragraph 56 of my report of 1849-50 these were alluded to as containing but thinly scattered patches of wood. Since then the Komavisdar has sent me a list, comprising seventeen villages, excluding one inam, and one in which the Teak is preserved as the property of the god worshipped there, and therefore not coming within our range of conservation.

69. Adverting to the scattered nature of these, and to the comparative value of one of them, viz. Nanda, I am of opinion that, to do them justice, the presence of a keeper from this department will be required. Measures will therefore be taken for employing one during the eight months of the fair season, viz. from November to the beginning of the monsoon.

VILLAGES ON THE BHEEMA RIVER.

70. These formed the subject of a correspondence between the Collector's department and Government about seven years ago. As the inhabitants had formerly paid to the Government a special tax for the privilege of cutting the Teak, Government, in abrogating this, took the trees (such as they are) into direct management, and they subsequently fell into my charge.

71. In 1849 I sent a pen-and-ink sketch of these forest villages, from which a good idea can be formed of their situation, and the sort of country they are in.

72. The Bheema being here flanked on both sides by high mountains, the descent to the plain is not direct, but medially interrupted by a broad table-land, which is cut by deep clefts, well fitted for the growth of young forest.

73. Hence the trees of those villages, though now comparatively of little value, will rise in estimation under a system of care.

74. They are mostly conserved on the share principle; but as the time at which any profit can be reaped from them is yet distant, I have in two instances advanced from the contingent allowance sums of Rs. 10 for the immediate thinning.

TULLOWREH.

75. The keeper of the koorun of Chas Kuman makes a monthly tour for the purpose of viewing them. Of these villages Tullowreh is the one in which the wood has been best preserved; also, from the situation of the village, in the bosom of a high mountain, the shelter for the wood is better than what is found elsewhere; accordingly the nett return last year from this village amounted to Rs. 82-4-10, a fact mentioned here merely to show that these Teak patches round a village, insignificant as they from a distance appear, have always some value.

76. In this village also the younger and more hopeful trees were carefully preserved, and to the village keeper was duly paid his one-third of the whole proceeds.

CHAS AND KUMAN.

77. In the report for 1849-50 I stated that thinning out of the riper and gnarled wood likely never to attain any size had commenced.

78. This year it was continued; but as much of the cutting took place in an exposed hill, the material was of inferior value to that of last year.

Accordingly the returns were.....	Rs.	810	10 11
While the expenditure was		213	4 7
Leaving a nett profit of	Rs.	597	6 4

79. The removal of this older wood will occupy a great part of the present season. The remainder will be devoted to the trimming of the best trees in the adjacent koorun of Kuman.

KUMAN.

80. In my report of last season, paragraph 60, I mentioned that the question of property in this preserve still remained unsettled.

It was shortly afterwards decided, and the Inamdar was liberally permitted to enjoy the koorun during his life.

81. No loss resulted from this well-timed act of liberality, as he died in the month following the decision, having been carried off by cholera.

82. Regarding the boundaries of the Chas Koorun, and the property of the ryots in the trees near their fields, much harassing discussion had for years gone on. Accordingly, last October an officer, deputed by Captain Francis, Superintendent of the Survey, attended me at Chas, when I visited the koorun, bringing with him a map of the village, and the survey record of the different field boundaries.

83. From the production of these, he showed satisfactorily that the ground on which the trees the ryots claimed stand was waste (khuraba), and on account of which a deduction was from the first made in their assessment.

Hence nothing required to be altered, and the grounds of the various petitions made were at once seen to have been untenable.

84. The advantage arising from the lapse of the koorun of Kuman is double, as we thus get an extent of forest sufficient to warrant the employment of a special keeper, but the robberies, which were previously harassingly frequent, are now little heard of.

AMOONDEE, GOREH, AND OTHER FOREST PIECES IN GORNEHR.

85. The forest in this valley will be found noticed in all my previous reports, and also in the correspondence which took place on the dismissal of the former Brahmin keeper for theft.

86. I have before alluded to the comparatively worthless nature of much of the wood, and to its stunted nature; still, bad as it is, we find that it meets a ready sale for house-roofing purposes,—the more so as Teak is thinly scattered in this division of the country.

87. The Jambool preserves here, also of considerable value, owing to local circumstances, have, as will be seen from the correspondence printed by Government under date 23rd May last, given rise to considerable discussion; but under the operation of the supplemental rule, as now published, there seems a chance of the questions hitherto agitated being set at rest.

88. Previous, also, to the publication of the printed supplemental rule under date May 27th, very considerable destruction of valuable Jambool plantation had taken place in gutkool and river land at Phoolowreh.

89. Having happened to notice this on my progress to Borghur, I brought it to the notice of the Police Amuldar, but found that the land had been cleared with his sanction, which, indeed, the rule as it then stood permitted.

SAL.

90. In this valley the forest of the doomala village of Sal has, within the last twelve months, fallen to the State. Documents from the Peshwa's Duftur proved that the holder had merely a mooshaira or assignment on the revenues of the village, but he had for many years usurped all the rights of an Inamdar, not only with direct loss to Government, but still more in the facilities afforded to plunderers of Government forest passing their wood as having been cut in this village.

91. The cutting of wood has this, the third year, been carried on in Amoondee and a part of Sinowlee,—

The charge having been.....	Rs. 231	0	0
Government share of the profits	769	9	3
Nett return	Rs. 538	9	3

92. In the ensuing season a cutting will take place in Goreh in the newly acquired village of Sal, and in the hill land of Sinowlee.

The material cut is in appearance very indifferent, but in a country so poorly wooded as the Deccan it bears a good value, as the returns show.

GEROWLEE.

93. A village adjacent to the preserves of this valley has now been thinned throughout, as we this year finished the trees situated in the gaeran, or grazing-ground.

The wood is of good promise, and will be superior to that in the Gohr valley.

KOOKREE VALLEY, TALOOKA SEWNERE.

94. In paragraph 63 of my report of last year I noticed the poorness of the forest in this valley.

95. Besides the village of Chinchowlee, however, noticed last year, the Teak of Parounda has now shot up so considerably as to be worth the trouble of preserving, and under our present system we may expect an addition from the line of hills forming the southern side of the valley.

MUSOONDEE.

96. Correspondence regarding the disputed land between this village and Boodrook Wurgaum was in progress at the date of my last report; and in September last it eventuated in an angry collision, in which two persons of Wurgaum were beaten nearly to death.

97. The perpetrators of the outrage, Patels of Musoondee, have been punished, but the previous successive encroachments by Thakoors, with their destructive cultivation, have destroyed all the Teak trees which were on the disputed land.

98. The boundaries of the two villages were some time ago marked out by Lieutenant Francis, I hope with a permanent result.

99. In taking leave of the Zillas of Poona and Ahmednuggur, I beg respectfully to be allowed to record that I have generally received every assistance and co-operation from the local officers, and that in regard to the higher authorities I have, in every instance, had the most efficient support from them in carrying out the forest arrangements.

CHAPTER II.

TALOOKAS BELOW THE GHAUTS.

100. In the middle of November I passed down to the Konkun, taking in their order the several Talookas in which thinning and trimming of Teak forest had been carried on from 15th August.

KOLLOTTA, NIGROLEE, AND ASRAH.

101. In paragraph 43 of last year's report, I mentioned the formation of the country so favourable to Teak forest in this quarter.

102. A third year of thinning in these villages has given us a nett return superior to that of the two former years, showing that the wood has somewhat advanced in growth:—

Expenditure	Rs.	311	15	0
Returns		855	4	0
Nett return	Rs.	543	5	0

LODEWLEE, NUREEL, BAROW, AND CHOWK.

103. The forest in these villages lines the side of the high hills behind and near Chowk, stretching down into the plain across the made road, beyond which it ends.

104. The trees are numerous and promising. About thirty thousand have this year been trimmed, the expenditure having been defrayed by the cutting of some riper wood conserved at Barow.

The nett profits, after deducting expenditure, and the payment of the Khote's one-third, amount to Rs. 61-10-5.

105. The numerous trimmed trees which may be seen from the road show favourably both as to height and straightness.

106. They will not now require further treatment, excepting a thinning out in the course of a few years, when so close as to interfere with the growth of each other.

107. The disputed claim regarding Chowk, noticed in paragraph 43 of last report, has been satisfactorily settled by a reference to records and Sunuds, and the forest remains the property of Government.

BARA PARA OF KURNALLA, NEEPHAR.

108. Of these, the former is in the Panwell Talooka, the latter in that of Penn. The Para was taken into the conservation arrangements on the recommendation of the late Komavisdar of Panwell, Rowjee Phatuk, owing to whose good arrangements the young Teak forest throughout the Talooka has been well attended to, and depredations have been comparatively unfrequent.

109. Since his death, an extensive plunder has taken place at the village of Lonowlee. The parties have been punished by the Acting Police Amuldar.

The conservation for Bara Para has been conjoined with that of Neephar, to which it adjoins.

110. The Teak of Neephar is very good; I examined it in detail on 14th May last, and then arranged for obtaining from thence a quantity of first class rafters for the use of the Engineer Department in Sind.

MANIKGHUR, WURSAE, GAGODA, PARLA, AND KOOMBHARLEE.

111. In opening the view of the Manikghur valley by an ascent of the gorge which leads by Goteh to Wursae, we at once see that we have left a plain country, where cultivation is the rule and forest the exception, for one of a character just the reverse.

112. The mountains are extensive, and well lined with forest; the quantity of plain ground comparatively small.

113. By the orders of 1848, the Ghera of the Manikghur forest was one of the precincts of hill-forts which were to have been kept for the rearing of jungle-timber, and till lately the order had been pretty well enforced. This year, however, I observed, in passing by the Goteh gorge in May, that two extensive fellings of good jungle-timber had been allowed to take place, either through the indolence of the local officer (Mahalkuree of Sae), or the blamable negligence of the person in charge of the jungle of the fort, who combines the offices of Gooroo and jungle-keeper. I brought the circumstance to the notice of the Mahalkuree, but, if I mistake not, the parties who had proceeded thus far in contemning these orders were allowed to continue the cultivation which they had begun.

114. The Wursae forest, which is on the hills immediately pointing the Ghur, had, along with that of Parla and part of Gagoda, been thinned for three successive seasons each year, with a fair amount of profit.

Expenditure	Rs. 209	11	8
Returns.....	644	0	0
	Rs. 434	4	4

115. The trees left may number fifteen thousand, of the best description, each of them fit to form a boat's mast.

116. In this, the fourth year, the thinning embraced the remainder of Gagoda and a part of Khoombarlee. The results of sales were a nett profit of Rs. 450.

117. The Muccadum in charge was active in the detection of injury done to the Teak forest in some of the neighbouring villages. As at Hettonneh, the injury done was by charcoal-burners, whose operations are more destructive than those of any other class.

118. The case was brought forward for investigation, but after an interval the chief delinquent produced a certificate from the Karkoon in charge of a neighbouring village belonging to Rastia (Wakrool). I presume that the investigation by the Police Amuldar elicited the fact that the certificate had been granted on false grounds, as the delinquent was fined and the article confiscated.

119. I give this as a sample of the difficulty which we are continually encountering from the occurrence of these scattered inams in forest districts. It might be a question for consideration as to how far we should be justified in declaring the right of forest forfeited in every case in which it has been found that this right is exercised for fraudulent purposes.

120. The trees trimmed in the villages of Gagoda and Khoombarlee may number about ten thousand, the rate which I always give being that for one medium tree felled four trees of good quality shall be trimmed. By this method we keep a large reserve of going forest for future years.

121. In my last report, as well as in that of 1848-49, I have alluded to the difficulty which occurs in getting timber removed from this valley, owing to the impracticable nature of much of the country.

122. The contemplated road to Doorset, added to the one of communication with the Penn made road, will do much to remove the difficulty.

NEEPHAR.

123. The case of an attempted appropriation of forest at Neephar, made in a manner which appeared to presume largely on the ignorance of higher authority, and the carelessnes of forest officials, need not to be enlarged on here, as (if I am rightly informed) such steps have been taken to vindicate the rights of the State as will prevent a recurrence of similar frauds.

NAGOTNA.

124. In the thickly wooded gorges of this Mahal we continued trimming and cutting operations on the same scale as we have done for the last two years, viz. from 1848 inclusive.

KARLEE, WURUP, JAMBOOSEE, AND KOORNAR.

125. These villages were taken this year, and from these about six thousand of good rafter timber, all of which met a ready sale at Rs. 18 per hundred, with exception of six hundred reserved for boats' oars to the naval yard.

126. On the conclusion of these operations, the establishment was moved down to the country lying under the high range which runs from the Sookhelee Khind, in a line vertical to the Ghauts.

127. Here there are several villages, which contain a good supply of older trees left from the cuttings of former years, as, owing to the small number of carts in the country previous to 1835, such trees could be turned to little use except for charcoal.

Now, however, they are eagerly sought after for cart pieces, and we accordingly gave contracts for the number of pieces (thirty-six) required in the making up of a cart and its wheels in the following forests, viz:—

MADHOWSETT, RAPHGAUM, AND CHIKULGAUM.

The contractor pays one rupee for the material of each cart, cutting and fashioning the wood himself.

The details are of interest, as showing the demand which now exists for carts throughout the country. Rs. 1,024-8-0 were realised on this account, which gives the number of carts' material, viz. 1,024½; charcoal from the refuse brought Rs. 55; and inferior rafters procured from ditto Rs. 46.

128. At Madhowsett, also, an extensive trimming of hopeful young timber took place. The trees thus trimmed may number about eleven thousand; ten men having been employed on this work alone from the 29th December to the end of January, and the average work of one man being thirty trees per day.

129. When at Nagotna in December, a number of Khotes appeared, who laid claim to the timber in the Khotee villages, as having been reared by them from 1823. Accordingly, in February 1851 I had a careful examination made by a Karkoon and Peon, despatched specially on this duty.

Total expenditure at Nagotna, &c. ..... Rs.	405	6	4
Returns	3,068	12	9
Nett profit ..... Rs.	2,663	6	5

The result was, that of young timber, *i. e.* within the age of thirty years, they did not find in all the Khotee villages which they examined any which could be said to exceed ten years, the older trees consisting solely of those which had remained from former years as not likely to pay the expense of cutting.

130. Since then, several of the Khotes of this quarter have sent in written agreements for conservation, and all of them will be more or less embraced in the general measure set forth in the proclamation of 10th June 1851.

RAJPOOREE TALOOKA AND TULLEH PETA.

131. Of the young wood in this division I can speak in satisfactory terms generally, though in one village, Wurusgaum, there had taken place an extensive destruction of green young wood. This I discovered while visiting the village in December 1850, and sent up the case to the acting Police Amuldar of Tulleh (Veesajee Ragoonath). After a careful inquiry and examination of the wood found, he fined a number of the villagers, but his proceedings were in the greater number of cases not confirmed by the central authority, and therefore the fines were remitted.

132. However, I have to thank him for the great care and industry he exhibited in the investigation of the case, and in bringing home the offence to the several delinquents.

133. In the main division of the Talooka the Teak is very small.

In only one village, viz. Warsa, did we cut two hundred rafters on a requisition, and having taken an agreement with the Patels, who made a respectful representation as to their having taken care of the young wood, I had a fourth of the immediate proceeds made over to them, an arrangement which appeared to please all parties.

134. The late Komavisdar, now transferred to Penn, gave us throughout material assistance in arranging the forest of this Talooka.

TALOOKA RYGHUR, MAHALS GOREGAUM, KONDVEE, AND BEERWAREE.

135. In the main division only one small cutting took place, viz. for the building of a dwelling for the Doongrowlee Khote; in his petition he having agreed to our system of conservation.

136. From the remaining part of the Talooka we have had no agreements, but several from the adjacent Mahal of Nizampore, where the Mahalkuree also has been active in the detection of depredation.

137. The Goregaum Mahal abuts on that of Nizampore, and the forest villages are many of them on a continuation of the same range, which, bending in near Dasgaum, is continued to the foot of the Mahableshwur range. All the valleys here which open towards the sea or the Savitree river contain, on the sides of their hills, Teak plantation, and in some of them the shelter is so good that the trees have already attained a fair size.

138. Thus in the villages of Mungrool and Waghosee we were able to begin with a respectable amount of cutting and thinning out, showing that in many others, as Borowsee, Pullusgaum, &c. we may look for an equally good harvest in succeeding years. But for the measures taken by Government of 1839, I have little doubt that there would have been hardly a Teak tree here now.

139. In one village of this range, Warpale, there is a good piece of plantation, which would seem to have been conserved since 1823, and the Khote of which, Aba Myput, may be fairly considered as entitled to advantages superior to those of his neighbours; but from what I have seen I have reason to believe that this is the only one.

140. In the villages of Eer and Dasgaum I had, in January, some twenty men employed in thinning for the month.

I calculate they must have thinned twenty-three thousand trees.

141. The cost was Rs. 65, the returns only Rs. 30; but this I expected, as all the wood was immature.

The returns from the combined cutting and thinning at Waghosee and Mungrool agreed for on the share principle were,—

Expenditure, inclusive of that of Dasgaum.....	Rs.	311	7 1
Returns from sales, including thinnings, after deducting share of Khotes		736	0 8
Nett profit	Rs.	424	9 7

Added to this, we selected four hundred first class rafters for Sind, which are now in the Dockyard, bearing a value of Rs. 15 per corge, being Rs. 300 in addition to the above, but not brought to credit until final delivery.

VILLAGES ADJACENT TO THE HUBSHEE'S BORDER.

142. In the gorges of this high range which divide the Bankote creek from the Goregaum plain, there are many forest villages, but from the vicinity

of the Hubshee's Country, and other causes, noticed in my report of last year, plunder had been very extensive.

143. A circular issued by Mr. Shaw, Revenue Commissioner Northern Division, in November last, arising out of the culpable laxity of the Goregaum Amuldar, proved of the greatest service throughout the Zilla, and appears to have done more towards inducing the local officers to interest themselves in the preservation of forest than any measure which has been promulgated since 1840. In my progress south from Surat, in April and May, I found that everywhere the effects of it were visible.

144. I concluded a conservation settlement with the Khote of Sunderee, where I reported an extensive plunder as having taken place in 1850.

145. No cutting took place in this quarter of the Mahal last season, but a good many of the villages are now ripe for thinning out.

146. In future years this Mahal will be one of the most productive in the Zilla as regards Teak plantation.

BEERWAREE MAHAL.

147. In several of the villages here cutting and thinning took place, this being the third year of operations in that quarter.

The material obtained was considerable in quantity,—about eleven thousand five hundred, and good in quality.

148. The greater part was purchased at the price of Rs. 18 per 100.

Expenditure	Rs.	383	0 8
Proceeds of sales		1,735	15 6
Nett profit.....	Rs.	1,352	14 10

Besides this, we exported to Bombay, for use in Sind, picked first class rafters 421, which, at the value of Rs. 15 per corge, gives an additional profit of Rs. 315-12-0; but this is not brought into my present accounts, being reserved until the final delivery of the whole shall take place.

149. Several villages of this Mahal have agreed for on the share principle, but I do not feel so sanguine with regard to the results as to induce me to be anxious to extend it.

We shall, I think, do well at all events to observe its effect in those villages already agreed for, and afterwards proceed as results may indicate.

POLADPORE, OR KONDVEE PETA.

150. I visited a number of villages here on my way to Severndroog, and certainly the improvement in the quality of the wood within the last five years is sufficiently visible. Depredations also have been materially lessened.

YENEREH, TAMANA, RAOTALEE, BOUL, AND GOWAREE.

We had a Muccadum and Karkoon employed in thinning and cutting at three villages of the Yenereh Tuppa. About 5,000 trees also were trimmed in the village of Boul.

151. The material was readily bought up by people of Bankote, at Rs. 15 per 100.

Expenditure	Rs. 272	1	6
Returns	951	15	0
Nett profit.....	Rs. 679	13	6

Besides this, three hundred picked first class rafters were reserved for Sind. These will be floated down with the rains of September. Their present value, as stored near the river in the forest, is Rs. 10 per corge, or of 300 Rs. 150; but this sum will not be brought to account till next season; I merely mention it now to show for future guidance the actual out-turn.

ADISTA, KOOTUL, MOOMORSEE, AND BELOOSEE.

152. In the present season, the thinning of the lower villages will be taken in hand. As these are much nearer to water carriage at Toorul than those of the Yenereh Tuppa, we may reasonably look for a fair return.

153. Here also the maxim is kept in view of trimming four good trees for one of medium quality cut down.

SEVERNDROOG FOREST.

154. In this, the second year of thinning out, it might have been expected that we would get a good quantity of material, sufficiently high in quality for Government use; and accordingly, besides the considerable amount sold, we were able to reserve about five thousand eight hundred of picked material for public purposes in Sind. Of this four thousand nine hundred and fifty sticks have been stored in the Dockyard in Bombay for export after the Dewalee, and eight hundred remain at Anjerla for a similar end.

The remaining material met with a ready sale at prices varying from Rs. 27 to Rs. 13 per 100.

155. The amount of expenditure on the cutting in this forest is, it will be observed, large in proportion to the returns:—

Expenditure	Rs. 1,143	3	7
Sales	1,423	6	8
Nett profit	Rs. 280	3	1

156. The value, however, of the picked wood not brought into the account, but reserved for next year, will be found to be little short of Rs. 4,500.

157. From this forest I turned northward, passing through a part of the Alibagh Country, having first despatched a Peon to the forest near Malwan, in order that he might mark there such rafter wood as will be required for the new barracks at Kurrachee, as the demand is large, and therefore the supply must be divided among many forests, so as to give a moderate proportion from each.

COLABA, ALIBAGH.

158. Of this forest country I visited this year the jungles near Choura, and had occasion to remark how much the wood might be improved by thinning; but as here the same vent for the material does not exist as is the case nearer to Alibagh, it seems not probable that the Agent will be able to undertake it.

159. This season one hundred mast and yard sticks, and two hundred and fifty crooks, were furnished for the Naval Department.

160. To make this Alibagh forest pay well, I am of opinion that we must organise a cutting department for private sales from such parts of the forest as are nearest the creeks, the Teak on hills and clefts of the hills being left to grow for the more important purposes of naval supply. The Teak in the plainer grounds will very seldom be of size or straightness sufficient for the latter purpose, but may, from the vicinity of water carriage, be turned to good profit if disposed of in detail. To effect this, there cannot be any difficulty, as the local establishment is strong. The jungle on the side of the Choura Khind offers every facility for this arrangement, and many of the better trees could be kept and trimmed out of the proceeds realised by the sale of the others.

161. In making up the returns for Colaba during the past season, it will be observed (vide Appendix D) that I have deviated from the mode taken in my former report. The reason of this is, that until now I only brought into account the returns up to the end of December of each year, and that this mode did not give a complete view of the transactions, as my own accounts date from August of each year.

Therefore I have taken only such part of the returns as was procured under the immediate agency of my own people, and these were procured between November and May.

From these it will be seen, that while the expenses of

the supplies to the Naval Yard amounted to.....	Rs. 439	5	6
The returns, inclusive of signorage fees, amounted to	2,043	8	0
Nett balance to credit	Rs. 1,604	3	6

162. In estimating the price of the crooks and mast pieces, I went on the data afforded by the price of our Kolwan supplies, according to the amount passed by the Board on 30th ultimo.

The estimate will, I believe, be found a safe one. I give it here only to make my report complete, not with any view to passage or audit, as I have nothing to do with it in this point of view; it is an item belonging to the Colaba State.

SAG BAREE OF TANNA, AND KASSIMERA FOREST NEAR GOREBUNDER.

163. Passing from Alibagh *viâ* Bombay, I visited the latter pieces of forest, as we had an establishment for trimming organised there in August and September. Not above one-sixth of the forest was trimmed, partly from the severe illness of the Karkoons employed, and partly owing to the irregularity of post communication being such that, my pay bills failing to arrive in time, the labourers struck work.

164. There is a good proportion of promising young forest here, and in the deeper clefts and ravines not a small quantity of superior wood fit for boat-masts and yards: of the latter I had a quantity cut by the Dockyard Maistree employed.

165. The jungle is one very improvable, if well trimmed; a further essay will be made this season.

166. The climate here, as in some other parts of Salsette, seems very deadly; a contingency likely at all times to cause interruption in our operations.

167. The results of the thinning department were as follows:—

Expenditure..... Rs.	126	2	5
Amount of sales	353	8	6
Nett profit..... Rs.	227	6	1

This was altogether independent of the results from the wood supplied to the Dockyard, the value of which was Rs. 463-6-0. The total amount of, and nett profit on, these latter supplies, with be found in the appendix.

BASSEIN AND KOLWAN JUNGLE TIMBER FEES.

168. As the arrangements on the subject of fees on forest timber generally had been long under discussion, and I had finally been requested to draw up a scheme for the adjustment thereof on a scale as simple and equitable as the nature of the case might permit, I went over to Bassein in order to inform myself more fully on the subject, and to receive opinions and suggestions from

parties of experience there, in order that the scheme might be put forth in a form which would require as few subsequent amendments as possible. Accordingly, early in February, I had the honour to forward to Government the plan and rates applicable to all the forest country in the Tanna Zilla, and also to that of Belgaum. The scheme was subsequently sanctioned by Government, under date 12th July, and will be brought into action on the opening of the season.

169. We may in the outset be prepared to find some inequalities in the working of the plan now as it is, and superseding as it does one much more complicated; but I am respectfully of opinion that a discretion should be given to the several Collectors in whose Zillas the fees are to be levied, permitting them, in concert with the Conservator, to modify such inequalities in so far as occasional reduction or equalisation may go, but not to increase them in any instance.

170. Also, in reference to the farming system for the fees, which, while deemed the best for final adoption, was judged in the first instance not to be easily practicable, a discretion might be given to the same authorities to try it experimentally on a limited scale in certain situations, should they see fit to do so; we could thus be enabled to judge of its probable operation on a larger scale.

171. In January I proceeded to Sind, but, as I have elsewhere given a full statement of proceedings there (vide letter to the Commissioner of Sind, 4th March, No. 144), I need not repeat the subject here.

NORTHERN FORESTS,—SURAT AND BULSAR DEPOTS, &c.

172. Having reached the depôt at Bulsar from Sind on 13th March, I took measures for looking at the state and management of the Northern Department generally. I found, that while considerable savings had been made, and a sounder system of accounts introduced since my visit in 1848, the management was and still is on a scale of expense very considerably in excess of what it might be, and of what the returns would warrant its being.

173. This excess may be fairly represented as the price which Government pays for the appointment of officers unable to transact the office business of the department in the language of the country.

174. These extra charges appear not only in the petty details of office, but probably also on the value paid for timber brought from the forest; else I would ask, how does it happen that prices are so much in excess of those paid by Native dealers? True, the article which they import is mostly of inferior quality, and shorter, but not to a degree so great as to warrant the difference in price.

175. It is, however, but justice to the memory of Mr. Roberts to state that he had succeeded in reducing prices by about seven per cent.

176. The quality of the timber brought to the depôt is superior to that which was received some years ago; but during the late season the want of demand for building in Bombay, and the total cessation of ship-building on this side, has afforded so little vent for our superior material, that, unless exported to Europe or to Sind, there seems not a prospect of an extended sale.

177. I have at present in progress a negotiation regarding a depôt at Kurrachee. I examined various places in the Delta of the Indus, as Kaitee, Gorebaree, &c., but in none of them could I find ground where timber could be stored with safety against the rising of the river; so that while for boat-building the principal source of consumption is to be looked for here, we can hardly expect that a safe locality for store will be found nearer than Ghizree or Kurrachee.

178. Regarding the supplies of larger timber made from the Northern Department to Kurrachee this year, I anticipate that there will arise considerable discussion between several departments; and as it may save future correspondence, and possibly prevent mistakes in after time, I will just allude to the subject here, as in a pecuniary point of view it is one of some importance.

179. Last autumn the Agent received an order for a certain quantity of wood, to be sent to Kurrachee: he wrote that he had none combining the required length and scantling; also, he stated that a man should be sent to select the timber, as had been always the case before.

180. On my arrival at Kurrachee in January, I conferred with the engineer officer there, and as we agreed in opinion that immediate measures must be taken to supply whatever wood could be found nearest to the required dimensions, I forthwith ordered the Agent to do so, and directed him to do his best to obtain local tonnage, as thus both time and money would be saved.

181. He failed to obtain tonnage, consequently had to apply to the Commissariat.

The tindals of the vessels sent could not or would not receive timber to an extent of a third of a capacity of the boats, owing to the length of the timber not admitting of stowage below, hence the expense of freight, as compared to the material carried, will be large.

182. In a case like this, the local head of a department should, I conceive, make it a rule to act to the best of his judgment in the absence of definite instructions.

DANG AND MANDVEE FOREST, AND KHANDEISH BOUNDS.

183. I had not this year an opportunity of visiting the Dang, as the urgent necessity for my presence in the northern part of Kolwan led me to believe that the remainder of the dry season would be occupied in this inspection; and such was the case, as I did not reach the Deccan till nearly the end of May, and the remainder of that month was taken up with inquiries at Singhur.

184. The forest at the back of Mandvee, where it adjoins the Sag Baree north of the Taptee, was brought to my notice by the Collector of Surat.

Mr. Roberts was despatched to view it on his way to Khandeish, and I also despatched my head clerk in the same direction.

185. The sudden demise of the former prevented his sending in any official report; but the view of it, as seen and reported by the latter, confirmed the idea I had formed, viz. that at present, owing to indiscriminate and reckless cutting away, very little good wood remains; but that under a system of care for a few years it will materially improve.

186. The climate is of a much more deadly nature than that of the southern part of the Dang,—I mean that portion south of the Baboolna Ghaut.

187. Mr. Roberts was to have crossed by the centre of the Dang to meet the Khandeish Political Agent at Suptr Sing, but as this plan failed, owing to his death, the nakas and the different forest as traversed were seen and reported on by my clerk on his route from Mandvee to the southern end of the Dang.

188. He reports generally sundry depredations; but, from the number of trees stated as felled, I would judge that these are on a scale very much smaller than that of the wholesale plunder which obtained previous to 1848. From the report given of one hundred rafters here, a few more stocks there, &c., the proportion would seem to be as about one to ten.

189. Notwithstanding the boundary fixed by the late Second Assistant, Mr. Harvey, and the agreement that a distance of two miles in breadth of forest was to have been left, disputes appear to go on in this line pretty much as before, mainly owing to the continual claims and assertions of the Gaekwar officers of rights, sometimes in virtue of purchase, at other times in virtue of conquest, to a half or a quarter share of many villages within our bounds.

190. So long as these claims are allowed to be brought forward, fresh causes for irritation and dispute will never be wanting.

191. True that in most of the cases the Rajas themselves disallow these claims; but it is difficult to say whether in every instance this denial is founded in justice, or proceeds merely from the consciousness that they may be possibly backed by a stronger authority, viz. the British Government; and

it is very possible that they may have parted with their rights in some instances for a little grain or liquor.

192. Perhaps the safest rule for guidance in the decision of such disputes would be not to recognise any share claim not mentioned in the list of Dang villages made out by Colonel Briggs, the first Agent in Khandeish.

193. The making over the British share of the fort of Salheir to the Gaekwar, which event took place about seven years ago, has, in my opinion, not only done much to lead to the extension of claims of the kind, but has tended to exert a sinister influence on the security of our forest property in the Dang generally, as the fort commands a road by which timber can at all times be furtively brought up from the Dangs of Amalee, Awchor, and Dak, and landed in the more waste parts of Baglan, at a corner remote from the supervision of the local revenue and police authorities.

FOREST PIECES IN THE SATPOORA RANGE.

194. These were the subject of correspondence between this department and that of the authorities in Khandeish last year, from February to June. I was unable to visit that quarter this year; any arrangement must necessarily be deferred until the Conservator can in person visit these districts.

FORTY-THREE DISPUTED VILLAGES UNDER NOWAPOORA, IN THE NESSOO RIVULET, TUPPA WAUGPORE.

195. I have not learned that any decision has yet been given as to whether these villages, with their forest (the chief part of them), do belong to the Gaekwar or the British Government; neither have I heard that any proofs sufficient to rebut those afforded by the entry which I had the honour to forward in 1850 from the Poona Duftur, wherein these villages were severally catalogued by name as the property of the Peshwa, nor to set aside the strong evidence deduced by Mr. G. Inverarity from the revenue books in Baglan, has yet been received from the Baroda Durbar.

INQUIRY REGARDING PLUNDER OF WOOD IN THE DANG, CARRIED ON BY CAPTAIN MORRIS; CHOWSALEH TIMBER.

196. This subject, which was noticed at some length in paragraph 69 of my last year's report, need not now be expatiated on here, as I have not by personal inquiry been able to add to the information I formerly had regarding it.

197. It is to be hoped that the inquiry is now nearly completed, for many

reasons, but especially because, until its completion, it will be by no means safe to open the Eastern Dangs to private individuals under a system of fees.

198. The reasons for proposing to do so were given in detail in my last report, paragraph 71; I will here only add, that unless we give a regulated supply under a system of fees, the timber will be furtively obtained in some manner.

199. In my last report, paragraph 71, I stated the probability that the sales of forfeited and confiscated wood might enable us to raise a fund sufficient to warrant our basing an expenditure (for ulterior purposes) therein. I am happy to be able to state that we have already realised from sales of wood at Chowsaleh a considerable return. Of this wood, the greater part was felled and squared timber, which had for years lain in the jungles below, and would finally have rotted there.

200. A portion also consisted of logs, which, on the first outbreak of our discovery of these frauds in 1849, had been abandoned by the dealers when they had brought them into the Soolgana Deshmook's country, in progress to the Deccan. Fearing detection, they fled, and left it there.

201. A further quantity of wood, which had been got ready for export from the Dang of Amalee, by means (it is presumed and reported) of a gratuity privately given to the Raja Husoosing.

202. The amount realised by these sales has enabled us not only to repay to Government the advance of Rs. 4,500 granted in July 1849, but to realise a nett profit of Rs. 3,500 (more or less), now in the Bank of Bombay, pending the adjustment of my account, after which it will be paid into the General Treasury, reserving a balance likely to be sufficient for current expenses, of selling the remainder, and of collecting any further quantity which may, on the judicial inquiry now under promotion by Captain Morris, be adjudged to belong to the State.

FOREST OF PENTH HURSOOL.

203. The cutting in thirteen villages of this territory was commenced in November, and the sales continued throughout the dry season.

204. Wood had been cut in other nine villages of the State without permission, and I was desirous that, as a lesson to the villagers, the wood thus cut should be altogether forfeited; but as some financial difficulties were apprehended by the local Amuldar, the measure was not, I believe, finally carried out.

205. The confining of the cutting strictly to those villages fixed on by the

Conservator's Agent is, I think, of much consequence, as to keeping up a regulated supply of growing timber here, and parties thus felling on their own account should certainly forfeit every advantage.

206. The benefits the ryots here derive from the wood are superior to those enjoyed by their brethren in the regulation districts, or in Waree, and other petty principalities. They have a fee on each piece of wood exported, and Government takes merely the export duties.

This season these duties were farmed for the sum of Rs. 5,754-5-2.

207. The former made a handsome profit, viz. Rs. 2,916-9-0, without his having any expense for chowkees, which are kept up by the State. I represented to the Sub-Collector my opinion that it was not advisable to renew the farm, not because the farmer had made a handsome profit, but by reason of the temptation afforded to Ryots to renew the system of unauthorised cutting.

208. I have not yet learned whether the present Collector has concurred in my views.

209. This territory affords much small wood for the use of the northern part of the Deccan.

210. The number of Jagheer villages in the State, particularly those in the Bareh Purguna, abutting on our larger forests, require incessant watching, owing to the well-grounded fear of their plundering from our Northern Dangs. On this account I am of opinion that the provisions of the circular No. 992, of 3rd February 1851, issued by Government, should be carefully kept in view in all the cases of lapse of heirs.

211. Any measure which goes to extend our intercourse with the people of this secluded territory is of great utility to them, for I could distinctly observe in the course of my visit there in 1849 that they are undoubtedly rising in circumstances, and improving in civilisation.

To this end, the completion of the line of made road through the heart of the country will powerfully contribute. I hope to be able to make out a visit there in the course of the ensuing season.

FOREST IN KOLWAN, SUNJAN, MAHOLEE, AND MAHIM TALOOKAS.

212. Leaving the Surat depôt of Bulsar, I proceeded through the head of the Sunjan Talooka by Bara, Ambasiree, and Jarooset, leaving the jungles under Gumbeerghur to the left. From near the Duman river, south to the bounds of the bunder of Sowta, I found the forest generally in a good state.

213. In the northern part of the Talooka the Teak is small, and apparently of more recent conservation; but after passing Bara, the trees are larger, so

that in two years a profitable cutting of good roof wood may be had. There has been comparatively little destruction from reckless cultivation; indeed here, from the structure of the country, there is less temptation in this way. The hills in the interior are in long and rather low ridges, rectangular to the Ghauts,—not in cross ranges from north to south, as found in most other parts of the Konkun. The intermediate surface is generally a wide plain or valley, well interspersed with Mango and other trees; the people, Warlees, comfortable in their holdings, and apparently well disposed to give the forest a good chance of growth, as their own subsistence depends materially on the felling of timber.

214. The good jungle-timber here appears to have been almost entirely cleared away by the wood-cutters, whose carts come from the coast in great numbers after November.

215. For the export of our own Teak, when ripe for cutting, and for the facility of transit of other produce, such as jungle-timber, Bamboos, &c. from this forest, I had the honour in April last to suggest (vide letter to Government No. 287, of date 13th April) that a piece of road five miles in length be made through the gorge of a hill four miles north-east of the bunder of Sowta, the gorge having the village of Goonjan on its eastern mouth, and that of Khynar on its western mouth.

216. The advantages proposed were that by this line we should be able to bring to this great Native depôt the timber of our own districts at first hand, whereas now we cannot reach the bunder in question without passing either close by or through the detached Purgunna of Jamset, belonging to the Jowar Raja. Here in either case a heavy duty, amounting to Rs. 5 to Rs. 8 on each cart of Teak, and Rs. 2-8-0 on each cart of jungle-timber, is levied.

217. Thus it is obvious, that by means of these chowkees the Raja secures the lion's share of the forest produce of North Kolwan; and it appears equally clear that, under our system of proposed duties, we should be able to have our proper share of signorage on that which is really our own; so that a road of that length might be expected to defray the charges incurred in making it even in the course of a single season.

218. The subject is, I am respectfully of opinion, important, not only as regards direct revenue, but as touching the export of our own Teakwood for public purposes. It is very possible that in the above statement I may have been led into some errors of detail, but my impression is that the main facts will be found as herein stated.

FOREST OF MAHIM TALOOKA.

219. On passing from the bounds of the Sunjan Talooka to that of Mahim,

from Sowta, I met with, on the comparatively barren plain which extends to Chichunee, a detached but extensive patch of good growing Teakwood, satisfactory as showing that even in that situation (comparatively easy of access) the order of the local Amuldar as to preservation was in full force. I mention this the more readily because in my own conservation arrangements for the Sunjan Talooka, owing to circumstances of climate having undermined the health of the several keepers I had stationed there, I have been unable to maintain the same continued and regular progress which has obtained in the other Talookas above and below the Ghauts.

220. In visiting the Mahim Talooka, I went to the interior by the northern shoulder of the Kaldroog fort, and, on passing the western side of the high range of which it forms one, I could but notice the nearly bared state of the western side of all these hills, so that in so far our jungle-timber duty plan is somewhat too late. The destruction within the last twenty years has been great. However, in a moist climate like that below the Ghauts, nature repairs these injuries in the course of years, and on the eastern side of those hills there is yet a good supply of timber.

221. It may be a point for consideration whether a rule might not be enforced, forbidding cutting for a term of years on the sides of those hills next the sea, thus giving the vegetation of wood and Bamboos a rest, and applying the timber on their eastern slopes to the wants of the community.

222. Among the whole of the tree vegetation there, young Teak timber forms one of the most prominent objects; indeed, on the western side, it will be in a very few years the only one left. In the gorges and more sheltered places the trees have attained a tolerable height, in the more exposed they do and will remain stunted.

223. From the steeper parts of the whole of the eastern side we furnished the supply of naval crooks of the present season. These were pronounced by the naval authorities to be inferior to the ones supplied last year, and on this account I charged them only in class No. 4, though perhaps a good many might have a higher classification.

224. Crooks of this size are sufficiently abundant on those hills, but most of the older and larger ones have rottenness or other serious defects; making good the statement made in one of my former reports, that much difficulty would be found in procuring two thousand first class crooked timbers in Kolwan. The reckless mode of lopping for field purposes has produced these results, and hence may be understood one of the reasons why I feel so averse to introduce the jungle share system into Kolwan.

225. In the three southern Talookas of the Collectorate, as these are more easy of access, we can, by means of a strong establishment and frequent super-

vision, keep matters somewhat square; and as there exist other reasons for its introduction in that quarter, it may be allowed to go on so far, but I would by no means recommend its extension further north.

226. The young Teak forest seems to extend all along the second line of hills which run north from Munor to Mahaluxmee with little or no interruption, so that here we may look for a future good supply of young timber right in the cart line leading to the great bunder of Munor.

227. The arrangements of the local Amuldar in this Talooka appear to be good as regards the preservation of the trees from destruction, either by reckless cultivation or by theft.

BASSEIN TALOOKA.

228. I entered this division by the road leading along the valley from the Munor creek, and crossing the Vyturna at Aduna. Consequently, I this year saw only that part of its northern forest division which is on the spurs of the great hill Toongar. However, at Dysar and other places I saw sufficient to convince me that the arrangement on the part of the Mamlutdar is good and effective, and that plunder, in as far as it can be detected, is rather the exception than the rule.

229. The difficulties of detection here are considerable, from the circumstance of inam villages being pretty numerous in the direct line leading to the chowkee at Mandvee. These inams mostly belong to the Wuzerabhaee religious endowment or dewusthan. The holder of these endowments, a Gosavee, having been allowed to assume the right of forest, grants passes for all the wood cut within his bounds, and possibly not unfrequently for a good deal of what is cut beyond them; at least, if one may judge from the rate at which cutting has been for years going on in the forest of these villages, it would appear to be of a character much more inexhaustible than ours.

230. The Collector of Land Customs has lately favoured me with some correspondence on the subject of the forest rights of those villages, and I have in correspondence to push inquiries, which I had previously begun, into the extent of the title of the servants of the temple to forest rights.

231. The inquiries of Mr. Luard have elicited the fact that for several of the villages no sunuds exist. These are said to have perished in the Kolwan troubles. In the Poona Duftur we find traces of grants without any distinct sunud. From these it would appear (at least to me it so appears) that these grants are of the nature common in such cases, viz. mooshaira, or assignment on the revenues. Without myself pronouncing any very decided opinion, I would beg to recommend the subject to the attention of higher authority.

KUMAN IN TALOOKA BASSEIN.

232. The forest in the bosom of this great hill has at one time been extensive. At present there is little excepting Teak, the growth of the last ten or twelve years. In the more open parts, under the hill, it is stunted, but the whole will be fit for country purposes; a part of it in the inner gorges is so new, that this year I intended to cut a quantity for public purposes in Sind.

POMUN.

233. This, the adjacent village, has a portion of forest, owing to the shelter afforded by the spurs of the hill. As a part of the village lands had been given in inam to a Kazee of the Sudder Court, I had, in order to prevent future disputes, inquiries made regarding the extent of his rights.

234. On the production of a copy of the deed or sunud granted by G. Giberne, Esq., when Collector of Tanna, it appeared to me from the contents thereof that the Inamdar had no right to the forest beyond the limits of his inam ground, as measured; an opinion in which the Revenue Commissioner Northern Division coincided. These detailed circumstances are mentioned now as a record which may be useful hereafter.

BHEWNDY TALOOKA, AND SEROOL PETA.

235. In the main division of the Talooka nearly the only forest is that which stretches on the eastern shoulders of the Kuman hill, and the next valley, which leads by Doo to Wuzerabhaee. In several parts of these villages there is a fair portion of growing wood, but I have not examined them since 1841.

236. The keeper complains of the effect of the Wuzerabhaee inam permits as operating also on this line of road, but describes the state of the wood as being on the whole satisfactory.

237. In the Serool Peta the forest, with exception of a quantity growing on a line of hill which stretches from Khandwal north, and a very young plantation on the river and brook lines beyond Padga, is comparatively thin. The preservative arrangements as kept up by the Mahalkuree appear to be very satisfactory. A cutting may take place in some of the villages on the skirts of the Maholee fort in the course of a year or two.

SHAHPORE OR MAHOLEE TALOOKA.

238. The proper preservation of the Teak here seems to have begun later than in many other parts of the country; in fact, I would hardly date it as

anterior to the incumbency of the present acting Komavisdar, as I remarked sundry forest pieces, which I had passed through in my visit of 1848, where very extensive destruction had been allowed to take place.

239. The circular of the Revenue Commissioner, alluded to in paragraph 143, has also, I think, contributed materially to the better perservation of the wood here.

240. The Komavisdar has had occasion repeatedly to report to me extensive cutting or destruction by travellers, and some by servants of the State, whose example is in this respect doubly noxious; but as, from the strict orders on the subject which have been issued by the Board, I see no reason to think that there will be any repetition of the practice, I need not extend the notice of it here.

241. In the more inland parts of the Talooka, particularly those which extend south-east towards the Malsej Ghaut, by Sakurbai, there is, on the slopes of the hills, and the narrower ends of the river villages, a good deal of serviceable wood.

242. From this quarter I this year procured fifteen hundred rafters for the Sind supply. A good many more could have been got, but it is an object not to exhaust the supply from one village.

243. Further north, on the Jowar border, west of the hill-fort of Boputghur, the forest is described as being of considerable extent, and of good quality.

244. I have not been in that quarter since my first forest tour, in 1840; therefore I conclude that a considerable portion of the younger wood which I then saw must have grown up into good roofing or boat timber. We had from that quarter this year considerable supplies of sotas for the naval yard.

245. The seclusion of this part of the country, and the comparative difficulty of cart carriage, must tend to limit the amount and enhance the price of our supplies from hence, particularly as the cart-track in passage by the bed of the Pinjara or Pinjal river has the Jowar territory on the north bank. On this account a duty is levied by the Raja, and this duty has lately been trebled (vide correspondence on this subject in April and May last, my letter No. 322, of 24th April). The Dockyard Maistree employed by me informs me that by an expenditure of about Rs. 500 a good road could be opened entirely on the south bank of the river here.

246. An expenditure for this purpose would be more than repaid to the Government in a single season under our present plan of signorage fees on building and other timber; therefore the point seems to be one worthy of further inquiry.

247. The piece of road meant would extend from the eastern bounds of the village of Oojunee, and terminate where the present cart-track leaves the river. The road would give access to all the southern part of the Mokhara Peta.

BRITISH VILLAGES ON THE BOUNDS OF THE JOWAR TERRITORY.

248. Adverting to the situation of the Jowar country, surrounded by the Petas of Mokhara and Wareh, and the Talookas of Mahim and Sunjan, and being aware of the quantity of young Teakwood which reaches the coast protected by Jowar passes, I deemed it worth while temporarily to employ two Karkoons of the department, each of them to start from the same point in the Wareh Peta, and the one examining the eastern frontier of the country, while the other passed along the western side, they should both meet at the northern end, and afterwards join their respective stations elsewhere.

249. Both of these men made a careful inquiry, which occupied them about six weeks, and joined me after the rains had set in.

250. Several cases of pretty extensive plunder, or of destruction for the purpose of plunder, were detected, and in one particular case, that of Peepulshet, in the Talooka of Sunjan, a merchant was found carrying off wood believed to have been cut in the limits of the village, for which wood he in a few days brought a permit from the nearest thana in Jowar.

251. In other cases, wood was found piled up ready for export. Under these circumstances, and adverting to the manner in which passes for wood cut in our territory are thus granted, I am respectfully of opinion that there is afforded additional reason for our subjecting the timber brought from Jowar to a fee, as sanctioned in Government letter under date 12th July 1851.

252. Another cause of the destruction here being greater than in those places immediately under the eye of the Komavisdar will, I believe, be found in the cupidity of the local Tulatees, who thus speculate for their own advantage, and trust for impunity to the circumstance of the more important duties of the Komavisdar being likely to prevent his visiting those outlying villages often. I would particularly notice the conduct of Etoo Sawunt, Police Patel of Goleh, in the Peta of Wara, and the Tulatee of the same village, name unknown, as being worthy of the severe displeasure of Government, for their disregard of the orders so frequently repeated.

253. The local officers have generally done their utmost to punish these parties, but I find that two additional keepers will be required in Kolwan from 1st November to the 13th of June, in order to repress these practices.

FOREST OF CANARA AND SOONDA, AND BEDEE TALOOKA OF BELGAUM.

254. The pressure of my duties elsewhere has prevented my visiting any of these forests since January 1849, but I have kept up a communication with them through Mr. Poulton, the Assistant in charge of the Malabar and Canara Agency, who has been for the last few months again stationed at Sudashewghur, as he also was during the rains of 1850.

255. To the presence of Mr. Poulton near the forest, and to his occasional visits to a part of them, we owe much of the comparatively good state in which they continue.

256. I would most strongly deprecate their being ever again left to the uncontrolled charge of a Native Sub-Conservator. I say uncontrolled charge, because the check on his proceedings, even by the nearest civil authorities, can be very small, as was evidenced by the extent of arrangements for fraud made by the late Sub-Conservator of the upper forest, Dutoo Rao, dismissed in 1850.

257. The fact of no fixed arrangement having been yet made by the Government of Fort St. George for the conservation of this forest, under a degree of European superintendence, has materially crippled the efforts which would otherwise have been made to turn it into a source of profit much larger than that which it at present yields, for the present diminished demand for supplies in the Naval Department (that source, which, as calculated in 1848, realised to Government a nett profit of upwards of Rs. 20,000 per annum) must now have materially decreased the issues, and in the existing state of ship-building prospects these are likely to continue so.

258. At the same time, adverting to the increasing prosperity of the great agricultural countries of Belgaum and Dharwar, situated respectively on the northern and eastern limits of the upper forest, the forest revenue derivable from a system of forest duties, carefully graduated, and as carefully seen to in their working, might be expected to be most considerable and increasing.

259. It does not appear to me that the present system of an annual farm for the privilege of cutting certain kinds of timber is either so profitable or so well supervised as under a different system it might be, and from what I have seen of the forest, both upper and lower, I have no hesitation in recording my opinion that loss is caused to the State by the continued deferring of arrangements so very necessary.

260. At present, if I might be allowed to suggest a temporary measure, to be operative only pending the introduction of arrangements of a more fixed

character, I would say that all durkhasts for building timber from these forests, upper or lower, should, in their progress, be submitted to Mr. A. Poulton, who, even though distant so far as Calicut or Panyani, yet from his local knowledge of the forests can determine the propriety or otherwise of complying with the demand.

261. It was from a representation made to me by Mr. Poulton, which I embodied in a recommendation to Government in report of January 1845, that a measure which has since proved eminently profitable was sanctioned and brought into operation. I allude to that of cancelling that part of timber carriers' contracts which allowed them the perquisite of all logs broken in progress down, or half burned by accident in the forest. From Appendix F of the present report it will be seen, that while the contractor has received Rs. 3,114-8-3, Government have realised by the transaction Rs. 5,544-8-9, and this without any expenditure for cutting or preparation.

262. The present import is for last season, being, I believe, the second season during which the contract has been in operation, and the same process may probably be repeated, with an equal amount of profit; evincing that by a careful management of many of these forest details, sources of profit, which would otherwise never be heard of, may often be opened, in cases where the immediate manager possesses experience and honesty.

263. This suggestion I make from a knowledge that some check of the kind is needed on the proceedings of the Native Sub-Conservators employed.

264. Mr. Poulton has also suggested that the forbidding of koomree cultivation within a certain distance of the sea required material modification, inasmuch as, in the situation to which the prohibition chiefly extended, there is generally no timber worth conserving. I have reason to believe (though I am not sure) that this suggestion of his has been acted on.

265. The latter clause of the prohibition, viz. to its being carried on within a certain distance (three miles of the creeks and rivers), is necessary and proper, and does, I presume, still continue in force.

FOREST OF BEDEE, IN THE BELGAUM COLLECTORATE.

266. I had contemplated (vide letter of August 1848) that an officer having charge of the Soonda forest should also superintend the growth and issue of the timber which is found in quantity in the southern part of this Talooka.

267. In fact, the two pieces of forest are conterminous, and, but for the accident of their belonging to different Presidencies, would be counted as one. This accident need in no way interfere with their management by one officer, as he could, without the least difficulty, credit to the Madras Government the

returns received from the southern side of the line, and to that of Bombay those accruing from the northern.

268. In future years, there will be much serviceable Teak timber from this, the Bedee forest, particularly as under the new survey arrangements the reserves will be kept intact from private claims, and from the noxious ravages of koomree cultivation.

269. I have had a forester in charge of this line of forest since 1847, and the late one, who joined me on relief this day (29th August), reports that during his incumbency he met with every support from the local authorities, and that the present arrangements for the preservation both of Teak and jungle-timber are the best possible. The latter is allowed to be exported under authority, and on payment of a signorage fee to the Collector. Under the operation of the new rules for signorage fees (sanctioned by Government under date 12th July), the fee will be extended to Bamboos exported, and also to firewood and charcoal.

270. This branch of signorage may be expected to be very profitable, as the line of country far to the east and north depends for its supply of Bamboos on this forest. Firewood may also be expected to furnish a good return in signorage fees.

271. I am now in communication with Mr. Reeves on the subject.

272. I understand that the practice of koomree cultivation has been permitted by the Collector, under proper restrictions as to the places where it is carried on.

273. To this plan there can be no objection; at the same time care must be taken that a rule, the operation of which, when properly watched, as is at present the case, will be of benefit to the ryot as well as to the Government, be not under a successor, who may not feel an equal interest in keeping up a portion of forest in the country, allowed to become a dead letter, as certainly will be the case if the lotting out of these koomree lands be left in the hands of Tulatees or Koolkurnees, who have generally a private interest in its extension.

274. In concluding my general remarks on the various pieces of forest in and near the Bombay Presidency, I beg to state that, as the countries embraced in the report are extensive, I deem that this may be held as a sufficient apology for its length and diffuseness.

275. I trust it may, from the account given, be seen that the anticipations formed by the Government of Bombay in 1845 as to the increasing importance of, and the profits finally to be derived from forest, properly attended to and regulated, are in process of realisation, and that we may in future years look forward not only to a plentiful supply of building timber, but also to some annual revenue from its signorage or sale.

276. It is also an undoubted fact that the several movements made by Government towards encouraging the growth of timber throughout the country, and the example shown in various ways, as regards tree-planting, have given an impulse in the same direction to not a few private individuals; and although it cannot be said that the feeling has yet become general, it appears to be extending in such a manner as to be likely to become so. In the several appendices to this report I have inserted various matters, which it may be of interest to view in a tabular form :—

277. Appendix A contains a list of villages secured on the share principle. These are situated chiefly in the three Southern Talookas, for reasons whereof Government have already been made aware. They exhibit a sum, exclusive of those above the Ghauts, of forty-eight during the past season against twenty-six in 1849-50. In the list there are no villages above the Ghauts, for this reason, that in the former year nearly all of those in the Poona Zilla were secured by agreements, so that very few remained for a future arrangement, while the few Teak forest villages in the western part of the main division of the Nuggur Zilla have too recently come under conservation arrangements to allow of the subject of agreements being yet properly understood.

278. I should here state that above the Ghauts there does not appear to be the same objection to the extension of the agreement system which is found to exist below. The wood, except in the older conserved pieces of forest, is generally more exposed and more accessible, so that malpractices and depredations are more easy of detection.

279. Appendices B and C contain an abstract and summary of the several items of disbursement and receipt from various sources connected with forest. The whole shows a nett return to credit, after payment of all the branches of Native establishment, amounting to Rs. 18,340-10-1, or, with deduction of an item of Rs. 29-14-0, disallowed by the Military Board after the table had been made up, the amount will be Rs. 18,310-8-1. I ought, however, to observe, that as by an accident or oversight the amount of jungle fees called "rankhanda" was not credited to this department until the commencement of the current year, the collection on this account during the year now passed, and amounting to Rs. 4,678-8-6, would, if added to the nett return above given, raise it to Rs. 22,989-0-7.

280. Appendix D gives the Teak produce from Colaba, as obtained during the season by the immediate agency of persons of this establishment, and on it is founded the estimate given in paragraph 161.

281. Appendix E contains the expenditure and returns from the Babool and Bher preserves of the Bheemthuree, and Pabul and Huvailee Talookas of the Poona Zilla.

This return is here given, because the accounts of these Talookas do not pass through the Military Board, and therefore a voucher is required for the statements made in paragraph 35 of the report.

282. It would conduce to uniformity, as well as to my own satisfaction and assurance of immunity from possible after-claims, were these accounts to be audited through the Board, as my others are.

283. APPENDIX F contains the statement of one year's return from sales of broken and burned logs in the Soonda forest, regarding which I have spoken in paragraph 259, the amount being Rs. 5,544-8-9. This profit has, I beg to say, nothing to do with any of my receipts or balances to credit. It is given merely in elucidation of the subject stated in the said paragraph.

284. The return of nett profit from the Chowsaleh depôt, as also the whole expenditure incurred for the depôt, has already been submitted to the Board, along with my other accounts, and therefore need not be repeated here.

285. APPENDIX G contains a statement of the transaction for the supply of wood to the Naval Department from Tanna and Kolwan, showing a signorage profit to the State of Rs. 460-9-7. The items of the signorage due have not been this year adjusted between this department and that of the land customs; but as the order of Government is that it be credited to the forests, it may possibly be allowed to remain as it is, without further disturbance or prolonged correspondence, viz. as a simple payment to the credit of Government of the difference between the price of material and that of the cost of supplying the same.

CONTINGENT ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE FORESTS.

286. In several parts of the report I have expressed my opinion as to the insufficiency of the forest establishment, as compared with the extent of country to be conserved. This will be still more apparent when I mention that several other portions of the Southern Konkun, extra to those now conserved, will probably, under operation of the Government proclamation of June 10th, 1851, have to be brought under conservation arrangements.

287. I have, however, stated (vide paragraph 8) that the receipt of several items of recovery had enabled me to take measures for giving extended protection to forest.

288. On this account, I will not at present trouble the Board or the Government with any request for an increase, as I consider that the present amount in hand ought to enable us to go in with the aid of the usual monthly sum for a year at least.

289. I am respectfully of opinion that a sum not less than Rs. 250 per month in all may finally be required, in order to make the forest establishment of the strength necessary. Nor need this sum appear large when we advert to the amount of monthly expenditure as compared with the extent of country to be conserved, and balance the strength and cost of our establishment with that entertained in the States of Waree, Colaba, and Sind.

290. However, as before observed, the consideration of this matter may safely be deferred for a year.

291. I keep the contingent allowance wholly in my own hands, and always bear in mind the excellent maxim enunciated by Government in the proceedings of 1845, viz. not to plunge rashly into expenditure, but to proceed cautiously, as we feel our way.

ALEXANDER GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

Camp Kaira, 1st September 1851.

APPENDIX A.

List of Teak Forest Villages from which Agreements have been taken since the Date of Report 1850-51.

Village.	Talooka or Mahal.	Collectorate.	Amount of Share.	Names of Parties Sharers.
Arrowlee	Beerwaree, Talooka Ryghur.	Tanna ..	⅓	Bhikajee bin Witoojee; not concluded till the village has been visited.
Barowte.....	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Bhikajee bin Tanrao Moree, and Baboorao Moree, Khote.
Toormeh Khoord.	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Trimbuk bin Soorjee, Patel Foujdar, and Yessoo bin Sumbajee Gigre.
Toormeh Boodrook.	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Baloo bin Ramajee Rao, Kuleh Patel.
Ranowree	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Arjoona bin Pootajee Ootekur, and Ramjee bin Gondjee Ootekur, Patel Foujdar.
Arawle Boodrook.	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	½	Balojee bin Ramjee Patel Ootekur, Foujdar.
Chiklee	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Etojee bin Sunkrojee, and Dunojee bin Luximon Bhadur, Khote Patel.
Patunsae	Nagotna ..	Ditto ..	½	Madoo Rao Anunt Sroongarpoori.
Wangne.....	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓ and ¼	Narayen Pandoorung.
Gotsae	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Ditto..	Furkee Darekuree.
Neegri	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Nuthoo Thakur Sett Goozur.
Amroosee	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	½	Sukia bin Deojee Patel Suckur, and Kessoo Gopal of Nagotna.
Madhowset	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Bala bin Gopal Goreh Patel.

Village.	Talooka or Mahal.	Collectorate.	Amount of Share.	Names of Parties Sharers.
Jumbooseo.....	Nagotna ..	Tanna ..	⅓	Bapoojee bin Jewajee, Purdhan Khote, resident Nagotna.
Sookeli	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Shetojee bin Balojee, Chitkojee bin Gondjee, Ramjee bin Pandojee, and Pelojee bin Witoojee Soote, Khote Patel.
Wasgum	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Krishna Apajee Burlureh, Khote.
Aeenghur	Nagotna, Talooka Penn.	Ditto ..	¼	Sudasheo Kessow, Keeroo bin Soonajee Mohita, and Sonoo bin Jurgoo Mohita, Darekurees.
Chekunee	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓ and ¼	Gunesh Rugoonath Khandekur, being one-third the dhura plow, and one-fourth the outlying.
Palse	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Bulwuntrao bin Govindrao, Nuthoorao Balajeerao, and Bawanrao bin Toolajeerao, Patel Sir-Khote.
Wyjnath	Rajpooree..	Ditto ..	⅓	Dajee Bhaskur Gorbole, Khote.
Nurowlee	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Bapoo Jeyram, and Pandoorung Bapoojee, Inamdar Mokasee.
Chawe	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Bapoo bin Nujoojee Marik, Foujdar, Jahadeo bin Sumbajee Lokhurda, and Huree bin Gungajee Sinda.
Dankane	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Gopaljee bin Soorkoojee Kuthri, Patel, Gond bin Balkojee Kuthri, Foujdar, and Deojee bin Donjee Kuthri.
Deokune	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Daobutjee bin Baloojee Booeet, Bapoojee bin Chowjee, Foujdar, Kanoo bin Chowjee Soote, Chowjee bin Sumbajee Kokuni, and Madoo bin Ragoo Soote.
Sangri	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Govind bin Raojee Jumboolgurra, Patel Foujdar.
Dol Wahal.....	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Gunoo bin Bapjee Waneekur, Patel Foujdar.

Village.	Talooka or Mahal.	Collectorate.	Amount of Share.	Names of Parties Sharers.
Wursa	Rajpooree..	Tanna ..	¼	Jaojee bin Khand Padol, Patel Foujdar, and Rama bin Gunga, Patel.
Tullowlee	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Madjee bin Bapjee Kununda, and Krishna bin Gopaljee Kurrounda, Patel.
Damunsai, Sonegaum, and Malsae.	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Yeswuntrao Narayen, inhabitant of Chowra.
Bhane	Rajpooree, Tuleh Peta.	Ditto ..	¼	Mukoonrao Dinkur, Deshpandia Koolkurnee.
Wurusgaum	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	¼	Ramrao Dowlutrao Sinde, Khote.
Guroosee	Rajpooree, Nizampore Mahal.	Ditto ..	¼	Dowlutrao bin Witoobarao, Soorwe Khote.
Pansae	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Balajee Rugoonath, and Dadooram Deshmook Adhikan, Wutundar Khote.
Ruvuji	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Hybutee bin Gunjee Kar, Patel Khote.
Koondle.....	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Mahdajee Pandoorung Oke, of Seesarwaree, Khote of Koondle.
Musheedwaree ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Trimbuk Wittul Tanunkar, Khote.
Kurpoolee Boodrook.	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Balkrishna Sudasheo Gurbote, Khote.
Wakee	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Krishna Joshee bin Chintamun Joshee, Khote.
Chawe Chintz ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Narayen Shreedur Bhut, Mahdojee Shreedur Bhut, and Dajee Bapoojee Purasjee of Seersar.
Waghosee	Peta Goregaum, Talooka Ryghur.	Ditto ..	..	Anuntrao Roopajee, and Krishnarao bin Bhikajeerao Gosalkur.
Sunderee	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Gopalrao Madhowrao, Narayen Soorpanee, and Anundrao Narayenrao, Khotes.

Village.	Talooka or Mahal.	Collectorate.	Amount of Share.	Names of Parties Sharers.
Nhave	Peta Goregaum, Talooka Ryghur.	Tanna ..	⅓	Luximon bin Apajee, and Wittoo bin Pandoo, Khotes.
Pulsune.....	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Gunputrao Chimnajee, Raj Sirke Khote.
Kuveelwal.....	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Pootlajeerao Trimbukrao, and Dulputrao, Khotes.
Tulane	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	JairamBalkrishna Kokuni, Inamee Khote.
Bandowlee.....	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	⅓	Ditto ditto ditto.

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

Hewra, 29th August 1851.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

APPENDIX B.

Summary of Disbursements and Receipts, 1850.

		Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
I. KEKVEE..	Expenses.....	696	2	5	Sales of material....	544	6	2
					Price of 153 large boat-crooks.....	229	1	0
					Rs.	733	6	2
					Deduct expenses...	696	2	5
					Nett return.. Rs.	77	4	9
II. SINGHUR..	Expenditure.....	617	14	9	Sales of material....	1533	14	10
					Deduct expenses..	617	14	9
					Nett profit.. Rs.	916	0	1
III. CHAS KUMAN.	Expenditure.....	213	4	7	Sales of material....	810	6	11
					Deduct expenses..	213	4	7
					Nett return.. Rs.	597	2	4
IV. AMOONDEE.	Expenditure.....	231	0	0	Sales of material....	769	9	3
					Deduct expenses..	231	0	0
					Nett return.. Rs.	538	9	3
V. KOLLOTTA and NIGROLEE.	Expenditure.....	311	13	0	Sales of material....	855	4	0
					Deduct expenses..	311	15	0
					Nett return.. Rs.	543	5	0
VI. LODEWLEE.	Expenses.....	196	11	0	Sales.....	258	5	5
					Deduct expenses..	196	11	0
					Nett profit.. Rs.	61	10	5
					N. B.—Of the profit one-third share was given to the Khote.			

		Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
VII. Wursae and Manikghur.	Expenditure.....	209	11	8	Receipts	644	0	0
					Deduct expenses ..	209	11	8
					Nett return.. Rs.	434	4	4
					N.B.—200 rafters furnished for Sind, value, at Rs. 15 per corge, Rs. 150.			
VIII. Nagotna Mahal.	Expenses.....	405	6	4	Receipts	3068	12	5
					Deduct expenses ..	405	6	4
					Nett return.. Rs.	2663	6	1
IX. Darolee, Toormeh, Beerwaree.	Expenditure.....	383	0	8	Sales.....	1735	15	6
					Deduct expenses ..	383	0	8
					Nett return.. Rs.	1352	14	10
X. Yenereh Tuppa.	Expenditure.....	272	1	6	Sales.....	951	15	0
					Deduct expenses ..	272	1	6
					Nett profit.. Rs.	679	13	6
					N.B.—Remain 300 rafters for export to Sind, at Rs. 10 per corge, Rs. 150.			
XI. Waghosee and Mungrool.	Expenditure.....	311	7	1	Sales.....	737	0	8
					Deduct expenses ..	311	7	1
					Nett return.. Rs.	425	9	7
XII. Anjerla.	Expenditure.....	1143	3	7	Sales.....	1423	6	8
					Deduct expenses ..	1143	3	7
					Nett return.. Rs.	280	3	1
XIII. Warsa, Talooka Rajpooree.	.....	.....			Sale of 200 rafters ..	37	8	0
					Deduct Khote's one-fourth share.....	9	6	0
					Nett return.. Rs.	28	2	0

		Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
XIV. TANNA, KASSIMERA.	Expenditure.....	126	2	5	Sales.....	353	8	6
					Deduct expenses..	126	2	5
					Nett return.. Rs.	227	6	1
					[Supplied to Naval Yard mast sticks 98,392, yards 57, Rs. 71-1-0.]			
XV. MOORBAR TALOOKA.	Expenses.....	4	15	0	Sales.....	84	3	0
					Deduct expenses..	4	15	0
					Nett return.. Rs.	79	4	0
XVI. KOLWAN.	Expenditure.....	119	0	0	1,500 rafters to be exported to Sind; other returns none.			

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX C.

Total Nett Returns from the Forests.—Summary.

	Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
Total of expenditure..	5,242	0	0	1. Total of nett profit.....	8,904	15	4
				2. Recovered by Komavisdar of Maholee on account of Teak trees cut by Engineer Department....	46	14	7
				3. Amount of Penth Hursool farm, as per Collector's letter.....	5,754	5	2
				4. Amount of Kolae, as per letter of Mr. Luard, 3rd July 1851, after deducting expense of collection.....	655	14	1
				5. Estimated nett receipts from Teak furnished from Colaba to the Dockyard	1,604	2	6
				6. Signorage profit on the crook and knee supply, after deducting amount already credited in summary No. 1 to Kekvee forest ..	460	9	7
				7. Nett profit in the Chowsaleh depôt up to 1st August.....	3,550	8	10
				Total.... Rs.	20,977	6	1
				Deduct expenditure for the year on account of forest office establishment, at Rs. 183-12-0 per month.	2,205	0	0
				Deduct Bheemthuree conservation.	432	0	0
				Nett remainder..... Rs.	18,340	6	1

N.B.—No deduction made on account of Colaba establishment, because it is considered that the jungle and firewood profits not credited here will suffice to defray that; also no credit is taken for Sind supplies, the value of which, as now stored, may amount to Rs. 5,200. These will appear in the account of 1851-52.

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX D.

Statement exhibiting the Value of Timber consigned to the Marine Store Receiver (Honorable Company's Dockyard, Bombay), from the Colaba Forests, from the 1*st February to the* 30*th April* 1851, *being the Nett Cost of Felling the Timber, and Conveying to the Place of Shipment, plus the Fee credited to this Department, as per usage of the late Colaba State. To these Expenses are added the Cost of Shipment to Bombay, and the Customs and Anchorage Fees.*

Numbers of Letters.	Names of Vessels and Tindals.	Description of Wood.		Expenses for Felling and Dragging to the Bunder.			Established Fee credited to Colaba, at 1 Rupee per Draught, and 2 Annas per Man's Load.			Shipping Charges proportioned to each Cargo.			Anchorage Fee charged, as per Order of Government No. 458, Political Department, dated 9th February 1844.	Total Charges incurred.		
		Large Teak Crooks.	Logs of Teakwood.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs.	a.	p.
122	Shumshar, Rama Colabker	67	..	63	2	0	101	0	0	32	8	0	....	196	10	0
153	Ditto, Waghoo Fukeer.	80	..	75	2	6	120	4	0	32	8	0	....	227	14	6
170	Ditto, ditto ditto .	59	..	54	3	6	92	8	0	32	8	0	....	179	3	6
200	Ditto, ditto ditto .	..	100	32	0	0	76	0	0	32	8	0	....	140	8	0
235	Ditto, ditto ditto .	54	..	52	5	6	83	12	0	32	8	0	....	168	9	6
	Total..	260	100	276	13	6	473	8	0	162	8	0	....	912	13	6

(Signed) E. C. JONES,
Agent at Colaba.

(True copy)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX D *(continued).*

Statement of Colaba for 1850-51.

Crooks supplied.....	260.					
Yard and mast sticks....	100.					
Expenditure for felling.....		Rs.	276	13	6	
Shipping charges.....			162	8	0	
		Rs.	439	5	6	
Estimated value of 13 corges crooks, at Rs. 90		Rs.			1,170	0 0
Ditto ditto 100 mast and yard sticks, at Rs. 4 each.....					400	0 0
		Rs.			1,570	0 0
Add signorage credited to the Colaba State, as per return of Agent 31st July					473	8 0
					2,043	8 0
Deduct expenses					439	5 6
Nett return.....		Rs.			1,604	2 6

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX E.

Bheemthuree and Pabul Expenditure.

WALKEE.

October, labourers ..... Rs.	19	7	3
November, 14 men	42	0	0
December, 14 men, deducting broken periods	38	13	3
January, 14 ditto ditto ditto	37	9	8

DONGURGAUM.

November, 12 men, deducting broken periods ..... Rs.	18	14	2
December, 12 ditto ditto ditto	35	2	9
January, 12 ditto ditto ditto	25	7	1
Karkoon	30	0	0
For cutting Cactus by contract at Aptee	16	8	0
For thinning at Aptee	37	8	2
For ditto at Wuroos	19	0	0
Total.... Rs.	320	6	4

N.B.—Audit of this is through the Collector's department.

Bheemthuree and Pabul Receipts.

1st.—Babool Seed and Branch Farm.

Walkee ..... Rs.	6	4	0
Peepulgaum	37	1	0
Koregaum Bewar	2	8	0
Dongurgaum	6	0	0
Phoolgaum	2	0	0
Bolae	1	8	0
Hingungaum	19	0	0
Kolsuree	21	0	0
Koregaum Mool	5	12	0

Khangaum Tek	Rs.	21	0	0
Nandore		2	14	0
Khangaum Boodrook		12	0	0
Bewree		1	12	0
Khangaum		63	8	0
Tullegaum		16	14	0
Bheema Taklee		3	10	0
Wuroo		0	10	0
Aptee		2	8	0
Lonee		19	0	0
Manjree Boodrook		10	0	0
Manjree Khoord		5	0	0
	Rs.	359	13	0

2nd.—Wood.

Meerwaree, as furnished by Mamlutdar	Rs.	3	7	0
Peta Koorkoomb, ditto ditto		9	7	0
Peepulgaum, for last year		55	10	3
Walkee		204	9	10
Dongurgaum		351	12	2
Wuroo		122	12	0
Aptee		157	9	10

Refuse.

Kolowree	Rs.	4	5	0
Khangaum Tek		4	9	7
Khangaum Boodrook		3	0	0
Khangaum		39	0	0
Lonee and Kowree		4	11	0
	Rs.	1,220	10	8
Deduct expenses		320	6	4
Total	Rs.	900	4	4

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX F.

Memorandum of Amount of Sale of Rejected, Burnt, and Ends of Teak Timber brought from the Forests on the Banks of the Kalanudee, and sold at Sudashewghur.

Amount of sale	Rs. 8,859	1	0
Paid to the contractors	3,114	8	3
Nett proceeds received by Government	Rs. 5,744	8	9
From this *deduct* Rs. 200, the estimated expense of lotting, numbering, &c.	200	0	0
Nett profit to Government on the transaction	Rs. 5,544	8	9

(Signed) A. POULTON,
Assistant Agent in charge.

(True copy)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX G.

Statement of Expenditure made and Returns received from Supply of Naval Timber from Tanna and Kolwan, in 1850-51.

	Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
Amount of advances made to Dockyard Maistree	2,500	0	0	Amount of bill for Naval supplies from Kekvee, Tanna, and Kolwan, as passed by Military Board.....	3,522	15	5
His bill, over and above the advances	82,	7	6				
				Deduct the portion credited to Kekvee, as per account ..	229	1	0
His pay for seven months and five days, at Rs. 35 per month	250,	13	4	Rs.	3,293	14	5
				Deduct actual expenditure ..	2,883	4	10
Total.. Rs.	2833	4	10	Amount of profit applicable as signorage on the forest.. Rs.	460	9	7

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

REPORT FOR 1851-52.

REPORT FOR 1851-52.

HAVING received charge of the forests in the beginning of March, when the yearly work was drawing to a close, and little remained but to gather in the accounts, all the arrangements having been perfected by Dr. Gibson, as fully detailed in two reports (one on the Teak forests and the other on the jungle fees), I have now only to send in the accounts up to the end of the forest official year. Whatever, therefore, I have to say, will be chiefly a commentary on the Appendix, and will be best understood by being read in connection with, and parallel to, the letters into which it is divided.

2. But I may first note that, after taking charge, I proceeded to the Rutnagherry Zilla, to ascertain the general nature and scope of numerous petitions received thence, agreeably to a clause in the proclamation of July 1851, which, re-asserting Government sovereignty over Teak and Blackwood, and modifying former arrangements, gave Khotes, and others who conceived that they were entitled to claims over Teak (in consequence of having complied with the provisions of Mr. Dunlop's proclamation in 1822), a space of six months wherein to register their petitions. The general bearings of this question have been already so fully laid before Government that I need not enter on them now. The relinquishment by Mr. Dunlop of supervision of the Teak of any save a few preserved villages, and the giving the remainder of the Teak of the country into the hands of Khotes and Darekurees, with promise of enjoyment of whatever Teak they specially preserved, and with expression of Government's anxiety to see plantations of the more valuable woods found throughout the country; the failure of this experiment, as manifested in the bare and denuded state of the Zilla, and the consequent deduction that the parties who had been expected to keep up Teak preferred present small advantages and hand-to-mouth consumption, and had neither the forethought, nor the steadiness, nor the capital, to work out a system of regulated supplies, as indeed might have been expected in a state of society and among a class of persons where consumption of capital (rendered less ruinous by pinching and close living) is preferred

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to generation of interest; the consequent expressed intention of Government in future to take interest and part in the formation and preservation of Teak plantations throughout the district, with due acknowledgment to those who had been prominent in planting and preserving amid the general indifference;—these are points well known, through the medium of numerous reports and multiplied correspondence. They afford an illustration of the fact, that if Government (like any private individual) wants anything done, Government (like any private individual) cannot safely leave the execution to others without exercising some supervision.

3. I may state, as a general conclusion, the following particulars: while many of the petitions related only to trees growing about the house and in the compound of the parties, and a few to trees in larger quantities, which had some of them been planted and some of them preserved with reference to Government proclamation, yet the intent and scope of most of them were widely different from what had been intended by Government as cases to be favourably considered. Many of the petitioning Khotes claimed exemption from Government supervision and sovereignty over their Teak trees, not on account of having planted, or of having conserved them with care within the bounds of their villages, but because they wished to establish a ground right in Teak, asserting that at no time and by no Government had any claim been made over Teak any more than (they added) over the common jungle-wood; that is, they commenced by denying the justice of the preamble of the Government proclamation,—a question which, of course, I could not enter upon with them in the way of discussion, confining myself to explanations, and to reference to the authority of that proclamation, which was founded on mature and long continued investigation, leading to a directly contrary conclusion and assertion. Moreover, the fact of there being a billet-farm in the Zilla, and that revenue is derived from wild Myrobalan, Tamarind, Kokum, and Oondee fruits, as also from Dhaitee-flowers, proves that even over the commoner descriptions of jungle produce Government exercises a right, much more over Teak, always asserted by the Muratha rulers, and suffered to fall into desuetude by us, only to test the experiment of leaving wood conservation to the community, an experiment which had not been attended with the results expected.

4. Several of the Khotes, however, had no such pretences to urge, and were willing to listen to proposals which ended in taking agreements for the villages of Punala, Dherday, Mathay Guzer, Sherownee, Shewtur, Kelwut, and Oonera, in all of which there is more or less Teak; and there is no doubt but that when the system gets established, when the present opposition (which has spread from the Ryghur and Rajpooree Talookas, where also similar unwillingness exists, and some of whose Khotes have villages in the Severn-

droog Talooka) is allowed to die out, and when it is seen that Government is not to be coerced, but, having formed its opinions with deliberation, holds to them with consistency, there is no doubt but that the Khotes of Teak villages with hardly an exception will agree to Government terms.

5. In the mean time, little will require to be done but to look after encroachments (which may be expected) on the part of Khotes and others, and to allow whatever Teak and Teak-stumps there are in the country to have a rest for a few years, when more decided ideas can be formed of the capability of the Zilla for supplying its own internal consumption. Along the line of country which I visited, although the undulating plateau of the interior and the hill-sides towards the Ghauts are bare of any timber (not to mention Teak), partly from natural causes and partly from the dense population, and the extent to which lopping, felling, and burning the jungle is carried, to provide manure and ashes for the crops, yet there are rivers running into the salt-water creeks, from whose banks rise steep and bold hills, on which the chief Teak of the Zilla is seen, either left untouched, or lopped and cut down to the stump in the most thriftless and destructive manner, and it is chiefly along these rivers, and in the deep-side dells leading from them (especially towards their commencement), that hope is to be held out of any future supply.

6. As I am writing this, the reports have arrived containing details of the investigation which Mr. Coles ordered the Mamlutdars to make of the petitions, and in the midst of which my detached inquiries were made. It will be matter for another visit to the Zilla, to go into cases left untouched this spring, and to go over cases reported favourably of by the Mamlutdars, leaving untouched the more obvious and unimportant ones, which relate to trees under fifty or one hundred in number. I may observe that Mr. Coles also makes references on the subject of fixing the privileges to be enjoyed by the different classes of Khotes, Darekurees, Patels, and private individuals, in cases of present claims or of future contingencies, on which points I have avoided giving immediate answers, till I shall have seen other parts of Konkun, and have become more familiar with similar cases and claims.

I now proceed to the accounts:—

7. Appendix A.—Under this head are arranged the accounts of the expenditure for thinning the forests under the direct management of the Conservator, and of the returns therefrom. This year a large sum was sanctioned, viz. Rs. 10,085, mainly on account of rafters which had to be cut and carried to the coast for the completion of the barracks at Kurrachee, and which, as per Appendix D, will be charged for to the amount of Rs. 18,351-13-5, leaving the general view of expenditure and returns for another opportunity. I now pass on to a brief summary for each forest.

8. *Jowlee Buleshwur* (1).

Rafters in hand, 1863.

Sales ..... Rs.	169	10	3
Expenses	137	9	9
Return ..... Rs.	32	0	6

It will be observed that Rs. 10-10-2 out of the expenses are paid to the Patel, in accordance with his conservation warrant, at one-fourth share of the cuttings. This is the first year that a cutting has taken place here, and it will serve for a year or two to come. The profit is small, because the rafters are small, and the difficulties of the road great. The Brahminwara Ghaut, from the Wuttoor valley, is exceedingly laborious of ascent and descent, which deters purchasers.

9. *Paroondee and Budgee* (2).—The expenditure on these two villages,—Paroonda, on the road between Jooneer and Ghora, and Budgee, on the Brahminwara range, facing Hewra,—was undertaken with a view of raising a supply of straight young wood in two places where the want of it is felt, and the results of the pruning are already manifest in the improved condition of the trees. Teak is rare in the Jooneer valley, and much to be desired.

10. *Amoondee Ghora, &c.* (3).

Remaining material, 2,225.

Sales ..... Rs.	1,029	14	0
Expenses	462	3	5
Return ..... Rs.	567	10	7

A few words of explanation are required as to the items of expenditure here. The cutting expenses were only Rs. 168. The shares due to the keepers of the six preserved villages (Rs. 105-0-1), to the Patel of Sal (Rs. 80-11-0), to the Patel of Borghur (Rs. 3-8-2), and finally the share which Government allows to the Conservator to provide a keeper (Rs. 105-0-2), raise the total expenditure to Rs. 462-3-5. The share of the Sal Patel is under reference, and not yet paid. He has been detected selling wood furtively, and it is probable that his share will be confiscated, and so form a further item to credit. The subject is before Government.

11. *Chas and Kuman* (4).

Remaining material, 205.

Sales ..... Rs.	596	14	5
Expenditure	239	8	1
Return ..... Rs.	357	6	4

The Teak, both of Chas itself and of the lapsed inam of Kuman, requires some rest. It has yielded a good profit for many years, and some pruning took place last year in Kuman, in addition to the cutting in Chas.

12. *Sheoghur* (5).

Sales ..... Rs.	1,630	12	7
Expenditure	552	8	3
Return ..... Rs.	1,078	4	4

Of the wood cut here, eighty-eight rafters, and two hundred and two rahadeos, to the value of Rs. 46-3-10, were supplied to the Executive Engineer, Poona, and this sum, with the addition of Rs. 83-4-0 for wood from Kekvee, in all Rs. 129-7-10, will be put to the credit of the forests, as per letter from Captain Berthon. The sum is included in the accounts of the sales here and at Kekvee, and Captain Berthon has advised the Board of the transaction.

13. *Kekvee* (6).

Remaining material, 1,988.

Sales ..... Rs.	1,463	6	0
Expenditure	697	5	5
Return ..... Rs.	766	0	7

Part of this wood was supplied to the Executive Engineer at Poona, as above noted.

14. *Kondvee Peta* (7).

Sales ..... Rs.	1,986	4	0
Expenditure	760	11	10
Return ..... Rs.	1,225	8	2

Part of this material went to Sind.

15. *Ryghur and Rajpooree Talookas* (8).

Remaining material, 2,659.

Sales ..... Rs.	3,944	0	11
Expenditure	2,237	5	10
Return ..... Rs.	1,706	11	1

It will be observed here that the expenses for cutting and carriage to the coast amounted only to Rs. 1,324-5-7, and that Rs. 913-0-3 are payments to Khotes, in accordance with their agreements, whereby they are to receive one-third share of cuttings in return for conservation. This charge is, therefore, to be regarded as payment for forest establishment, and partly also as an acknowledg-

ment of some little claim to share in the ground rights of Teak. Part of the expenses here were due to thinning and pruning, not altogether to cutting. Part of the material cut went to Sind.

16. *Nagotna* (9).

Remaining material, 250.

Sales	Rs.	2,257	5 8
Expenditure		932	8 7
Return	Rs.	1,324	13 1

The same remarks apply here as to the last division; to wit, part of the material went to Sind, and part of the expenditure, Rs. 373-9-6, was over Khotes and Patels.

17. *Chownaee and Tooksaee* (10).

Sales	Rs.	2,433	12 2
Expenditure		1,529	10 8
Return	Rs.	904	1 6

Part of this material went to Sind. Rs. 100 were paid here to the Patels of the two villages, as an acknowledgment for efficient conservation.

18. *Neephar* (11).

Sales	Rs.	1,385	13 11
Expenditure		323	15 10
Return	Rs.	1,061	14 1

It may be remarked here, that out of the expenses a considerable share is debited to thinning and pruning, in order to ensure good materials for future years; as doubtless thinnings in former years contributed to increase the value of this year's cuttings, of which part went to Kurrachee.

19. *Nuroda* (12).

Remaining material, 463.

Sales	Rs.	1,086	7 4
Expenditure		529	13 2
Return	Rs.	556	10 2

It should be observed that three hundred and seventy-five rafters were given here to two temples, and to a Brahmin, which, perhaps, should have been estimated at the money value, and reckoned in the expenditure; but the amount would not be much, as care is taken never to give away good wood,—combining prudence with generosity. Some of these rafters went to Sind.

20. *Manowlee and Wurosee* (13).

Sales	Rs. 215	6	0
Expenditure	225	14	1
To debit	Rs. 10	8	1

It will be observed that the deficiency was caused by the present of Rs. 24 to the Patel of Manowlee, who had preserved his Teak with great care, and received this amount in addition to his share of rafters. Dr. Gibson paid the amount out of the sum sanctioned for thinning the forests. The expenses here, too, are large, partly owing to the great charge for carriage to the coast, but also partly due (be it noted) to the extensive pruning and thinning which was gone through at Wurosee,—an expense which will be repaid by the increased value of the material in future years. Part of this wood went to Sind.

21. *Khandeish* (14).

Remaining material, 440.

Sales	Rs. 801	12	0
Expenditure	553	0	3
Return	Rs. 248	11	9

Part of these rafters went to Kurrachee, and had to be conveyed from under the Bheemasunkur Ghaut to the coast, and hence the heavy charge for conveyance, Rs. 300.

However, if we were always to cut near the coast, and never have recourse to the inland forests, the country would be unequally denuded of timber.

22. *Kolwan* (15).

Remaining material, 275.

Sales	Rs. 3,146	15	3
Expenditure	1,450	10	10
Return	Rs. 1,696	4	5

Part of this wood went to Kurrachee, and the great expense was due to the difficult nature of the hilly country in which it was cut making conveyance to a cart-road very heavy.

23. *Kassimera* (17).

Sales	Rs. 515	0	0
Expenditure	255	14	9
Return	Rs. 259	1	3

Part of the expense was due to pruning and thinning. Part of the wood went to Sind.

24. *Kuman* (16).

Sales	Rs. 1,668	6	0
Expenditure	523	13	2
Return	Rs. 1,144	8	10

Part of this wood went to Kurrachee, and the nature of the country rendered carriage very expensive.

25. *Darolee and Khalowlee* (18).—The transactions here consisted in sending four hundred and twenty-one rafters, cut last year, to Kurrachee, at a charge of Rs. 252-9-7, for their value to be paid by the Executive Engineer, Kurrachee.

26. *Wayhosee* (19).—The same remarks apply to this division, only that from the value of the rafters, Rs. 240, will have to be deducted Rs. 80 for the one-third share of the Khote, agreeably to his agreement and conservation warrant.

27. *Loharee* (20).

Sales	Rs. 99	13	6
Expenditure	37	11	7
Return	Rs. 62	1	11

It will be noted that this wood was cut last year, and that the expenditure consists of Rs. 10 paid for carriage and supervision, and of Rs. 27-11-7, the one-third share of the Khote, agreeably to his warrant.

28. *Ban Tewra* (21).—From the price of the rafters, Rs. 3,472-3-2, has only to be deducted the carriage to the bunder (the wood being cut last year), leaving a return of Rs. 3,389. This excellent preserve will yield a steady supply of wood, whose value increases yearly with care and rest. I may notice here, that in the middle of the preserved villages, the Khote of Tureel appears entitled, from long usage, to the Teak growing in his village, in the ravine called Ghurburree, and which seems to have been excepted from the preserve, both under the Muratha rule and by our Government. He was one of the petitioners from the Severndroog Zilla who had some ground for his petition.

29. *Bheemthuree* (22).—The grass of the Bheema kooruns is let out annually by the Collector, and the proceeds are (in the accounts here given) supposed to more than cover the establishment. The receipts for firewood and Babool pods (the only trees under the care of this department), amounting to Rs. 1,294-8-1, having had the expenses of cutting the wood, and the pay of a Karkoon, Rs. 456-0-5, deducted from them, there is left a fictitious balance of

Rs. 838-7-8. In reality, some share of the permanent establishment should be charged to the wood proceeds, inasmuch as the peons and keepers protect the wood as well as look after the koorun generally. Perhaps it would have been as well to have included the proceeds from grazing in these accounts, and to have brought the whole establishment to debit.

30. *Malwan* (23).

Remaining material, 1,250.

Sales	Rs. 329	8	0
Expenditure	261	9	0
Return	Rs. 67	15	0

The remaining material here is good, and will realise a fair sum, to appear in next year's accounts. It had been intended to have sent it to Sind, but the boat contractors delayed till the season was too far advanced, and the sum of Rs. 12 was recovered from them for the expense thereby incurred by this department in watching and storing up the rafters thus delayed, here and at Tal Bunder.

31. *Stationery* (24).—For the office, Rs. 6-12-0 is entered on the debit side, and the *Return* (25) of the Rs. 12 referred to in the last paragraph on the credit side.

32. Appendix B.—This table is given to show at one glance the amounts paid for Teak conservation, chiefly in accordance with agreement, in a few cases, in the way of gratuity. The items are extracted from the accounts just gone over. The amount is Rs. 1,823-2-11, and from this amount, if we deduct the sums marked by an asterisk (Rs. 24 paid by Dr. Gibson, from the sanction cash, and Rs. 304-13-7 in the *Poona* Collectorate), we have a balance of Rs. 1,494-5-4 for payment in the *Tanna* Collectorate; and to this, if we add Rs. 378-1-7 on account of payments for last year, we get a total of Rs. 1,872-6-11; to defray which I asked in May for sanction to the Collector of Tanna to pay any sums not in the aggregate exceeding Rs. 2,000. Government granted the sanction, but suggested the necessity for an early settlement, so that I take this opportunity of reporting payment of the sums to be presently mentioned, and to state that there still remain to be paid Rs. 329-0-5 to Khotes whose agreements have not yet reached the office, but are promised. If they finally hold off, this sum will form an item to credit.

1,823	2	11
328	13	7
1,494	5	4
378	1	7
1,872	6	11

Sums paid through the Collector of Tanna, out of Rs. 2,000 *sanctioned.*

1850-51.

Mungrool and Waghosee.....	Rs.	244	3	1		
Wurup		38	6	4		
Jamboosee		46	13	0		
Koornar.....		48	11	2		
					378	1 7

1851-52.

Veer	Rs.	235	13	0		
Advee.....		89	4	6		
Bhandewlee		30	14	11		
Maktee		71	2	4		
Soorghur		110	0	0		
Rankulatee		91	10	8		
Loharee		27	11	7		
Waghosee		80	0	0		
Sookhelee		99	2	6		
Madhowshet		192	11	0		
Aynghur		31	15	9		
Hedowlee		4	14	8		
Chownaee and Tooksaee.....		100	0	0		
					1,165	4 11
Total paid....	Rs.				1,543	6 6.

1851-52 (not paid, but included in the accounts).

Wurpar Khote .....Rs.	258	2	3	
Mulatee do.	26	0	7	
Nagotna do.	44	13	7	
Total....Rs.	1,872	6	11	

33. Appendix C.—In this table we have a list of rafters given away, chiefly as presents for effective conservation; sometimes as a share due by previous agreement; sometimes for a temple; and in one case to be returned. From the mixed nature of these donations, and for reasons given in paragraph 19, these rafters are here merely noted, and their value not estimated, though perhaps in strictness it should have been. In cases, however, of temples, which serve for town hall, and rest house, the public benefit is such, that if the value of the wood had been charged, its market price should also have appeared on the other side. So that the best plan would seem to be to furnish a statement of the rafters given, and to leave their value out of the question.

34. APPENDIX D.—The rafters supplied for the Kurrachee barracks are here noted in one table; their number 47,791. In addition, 3,000 were supplied from the Colaba Territory, and 3,000 or 4,000 by Mr. Fenner, which raise the total number of rafters supplied rather above that indented for. But the number here given will have to be charged for by this department, and credit has been taken for them in the accounts of each forest.

35. APPENDIX E.—We have here in one table the totals of expenditure and returns from each forest, extracted from Appendix A, leaving a final nett return of Rs. 17,678-3-10.

36. APPENDIX F.—This page gives an account of the disposal of whatever sums were in hand during the past season. First, as to the receipts,—(1), no notice is required of the amount sanctioned to Dr. Gibson and myself, (2), which was placed in the Commercial Bank, and produced interest. (3), I am sorry to say that owing to a misconception of the current mode of doing business, I sold part of the materials cut at Maktee, in the Rajpooree Talooka, and with the proceeds paid for the cutting and conveyance of certain other material; that is, instead of letting the above sum, Rs. 469-4-11, be collected by the Mamlutdars, and put to the credit of Government, I took it into my own hands, and applied it to the discharge of certain expenses. So that I have to do now what I should have done then, to wit, request the sanction of Government for this extra expenditure of Rs. 469-4-11. (4), The amount paid (Rs. 1,165-4-11) and to be paid (Rs. 329-0-5) to Khotes in the Tanna Collectorate for the last year is added here, as it appears in the expenditure side. (5), The same remark applies to Rs. 304-13-7 in the Poona Collectorate. (6), Lastly, the Rs. 12 paid by the boat contractor is entered.

To turn to the other side. The expenditure and the unexpended balance paid over to the General Paymaster fail to meet the amount to be accounted for and at disposal by Rs. 7-5-11, which cannot be at present traced, and must, therefore, stand to my debit. With this exception, I hope that the accounts, *as far as gone into*, will be passed, and that Rs. 10,085 be removed from my name in the books of the General Paymaster on account of Teak thinnings and rafters for Sind, and for the Bheemthuree Babool forest. Further, that the expenditure of Rs. 469-4-11 be sanctioned, as above noted.

37. APPENDIX G.—Just before his departure, Dr. Gibson asked for Rs. 12,000 (to be granted in my name), for the cutting and conveyance of timber from the Dangs of Amalee and Wasoorna (whose produce never reaches the Bulsar depôt, on the coast) to the depôt of Chowsaleh on the Khandeish border. Only Rs. 3,781-14-9 have been drawn from the General Paymaster, and two thousand and twenty pieces of Teakwood brought up. Unluckily, a large

quantity of wood, which had been for a long time under confiscation, was about this time given over to the wood merchants by Major Morris, and the market became overstocked. However, part was sold to the Executive Engineer at Malligaum, at a price which defrayed the cost of the whole, and left a fair surplus for incidental expenses. But at Nuggur and Poona the private dealers can undersell us, not only to individuals, but also to public departments. I may note that the establishment for the Chowsaleh depôt is paid temporarily from the contingent allowance for establishment, but it is charged here because it will have to be returned to the contingent fund when the Executive Engineer pays for his wood,—that is, the depôt is paid for out of the profits.

38. APPENDIX H.—The fees collected at the four stations in the Penth Hursool State on the Teakwood cut there, and the fines collected, make a sum of Rs. 8,680-1-4, which is a notable advance upon the sum of Rs. 5,000 for which the duties were given in farm last year. The establishment under the Collector manages the collection at the same time with that of other duties, and we have a Karkoon and peons to look after the annual ringing, the pruning, and the general interests of the department. These are paid from the allowance for forest establishment.

39. APPENDIX J.—This table presents the accounts of the expenditure, receipts, and nett produce of the jungle fee system, in the different Talookas of the Tanna Zilla, of which part were farmed, part were worked by the Mamlutdars, part by the Collector of Land Customs, and part in two or more of the above ways, at different periods of the season, as circumstances and expediency suggested. The ordinary expenses (Rs. 1,971-7-8) deducted from the total returns (Rs. 19,339-10-0) would have presented a nett profit of Rs. 17,368-2-4, but for certain extraordinary charges, amounting to Rs. 372-0-6, which reduce the proceeds to Rs. 16,996-1-10. On the subject of the deduction in Callian, correspondence has passed, and the subject has been long before Government. In Bassein the Collector of Customs had levied fees after the commencement of the farm, the amount of which (Rs. 127-12-6) was refunded to the farmer, and in Kolwan certain fees had been collected by the Mamlutdar's establishment, which belonged of right to the farmer of Bhewndy, to whom they were ordered to be refunded by Dr. Gibson. Considerable as is the return in this the first year of management, it will be increased at least by half in the present year. The four Talookas of Mahim, Bassein, Bhewndy, and Sunjan, which were let last year for Rs. 10,735, have been farmed this year for Rs. 19,625, two bids having been made to the Mamlutdar, and the third one direct to the office here on the 30th of September. So that, allowing no increase in the amount levied by the Mamlutdars and by

Collector of Customs, the estimate of augmentation by half would seem more than justified. I subjoin a list of the Talookas, and the mode in which they have been disposed of for the current year:—

Mahim	farmed for	Rs. 5,550
Bassein	ditto	4,525
Bhewndy	ditto	2,550
Sunjan	ditto	7,000
Kolwan establishment under Mr. Malet.		
Salsette	ditto	ditto.
Callian	ditto	ditto.
Morbar	ditto	ditto.
Nusrapoor	ditto	ditto.
Tullojeh	ditto	ditto.
Ryghur	ditto	ditto.
Rajpooree establishment under Mr. Luard.		
Sanksee	ditto	ditto.
Panwell	ditto	ditto.

40. APPENDIX K.—We have in this table an account of the sales of confiscated wood, and of fines levied for the destruction or secretion of Government timber, which, after deducting the share due to the informer or apprehender, form a credit to Government of Rs. 731-5-11.

41. APPENDIX L.—The expenditure for cutting crooks and knees for the Dockyard is here noted; the sanctions as follows:—

Dr. Gibson	Rs. 2,500	0	0
Dr. Stocks	1,500	0	0
Ditto	1,000	0	0
Ditto	892	8	0
Total....	Rs. 5,892	8	0

The sums also to be charged are given, but I believe the profit should be much more than Rs. 7-0-8, and I have considerable doubts as to the accounts rendered by Arjoona Maistree, the man employed to cut and convey the wood to Bombay. I would refer to my letters No. 460 (misnumbered, I believe, 260) and 642, stating the case, and making what suggestions occurred to me for preventing such dubious accounts in future, or for providing checks against them. The matter is still under reference by the Board, and under examination by me, and will be finally reported on when I reach Bassein and Bhewndy in December. Hence I cannot ask for this account to be passed, and insert it here only to complete the general view of the operations of the department.

42. APPENDIX M.—We have noted here the fixed allowance for forest

conservation throughout the year, and the expenses of a temporary Karkoon, employed originally to define the boundaries of the Bheemthuree Babool forests, and afterwards, with the permission of Government, detached into the Konkun to collect agreements from, and to explain Government views to, the Khotes in the Southern Talookas of the Tanna Zilla, in whose villages Teak plantations were found.

43. APPENDIX N.—In this table we have summed up the nett profits from the various branches, and, after deducting the establishment just noted, we find a balance of Rs. 42,191-1-4 to the credit of Government from this department, from which, if it be thought proper to deduct the Conservator's salary, the same can be readily done. Shortly, with a fixed establishment to the amount of Rs. 183-12-0 monthly, dispersed through the Presidency as keepers, or Karkoons, from Belgaum to the Khandeish border, or as office establishment moving with the Conservator, the Teak and other valuable woods of the Presidency are guarded, depredations punished (whence a return to Government), and, as a separate case, the Penth Hursool wood marked out, and its supply regulated. In August, on the arrival of Government sanction, a temporary establishment is sent into the districts marked out for the year's cuttings, by whom, assisted by the permanent establishment, the forests are pruned and thinned, and wood is cut for the supply of individuals and Government. This temporary establishment acts also for the time being as a protecting and conserving one, overlooking as well as aiding the Khotes, Patels, and others, who have agreements, and who are to be regarded in the light of establishment also. At the same time, arrangements are made for cutting wood for the Dockyard, on a separate sanction, in whose selection, as peculiar knowledge is required, a Dockyard Maistree is employed, at a high salary, paid out of the sanction. At the same time, arrangements are made for the jungle fees in the Tanna Zilla. In addition, in certain localities, Teakwood is disposed of, either (as at Chowsaleh) by a Karkoon from this department, or (as in Kolwan during the current year) by an establishment appointed by the Mamlutdars to collect fees on Teak cut by merchants and dealers, exactly as in the Penth Hursool territory. And here may be noticed the recent addition of the scanty Teak of Sattara, and the fine forests of the Colaba Territory. It is almost needless for me, so often as the subject has been brought forward, and so often the truth allowed, to say, in conclusion, that Rs. 42,191-1-4, the nett profit from the above noted branches (or less, if we deduct the Conservator's salary), does not represent the whole value derived from the system of conservation of timber, but only the immediate money return.

J. E. STOCKS, Assistant Surgeon,
Conservator of Forests.

Sheoghur, October 28th, 1852.

ABSTRACT OF APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.—Teak Thinnings under Conservator.

„ B.—Shares of Khotes, &c., as by agreement.

„ C.—Wood given away.

„ D.—Memorandum of Sind Rafters.

„ E.—General Table of Expenditure, and Returns on Teak thinnings under Conservator.

„ F.—Ditto ditto of Receipts and Disbursements on ditto ditto, under ditto.

„ G.—Chowsaleh Depôt.

„ H.—Teak in Penth Hursool.

„ J.—Jungle Fees.

„ K.—Fines.

„ L.—Dockyard Supplies.

„ M.—Establishment.

„ N.—Summary.

APPENDIX A.

Details of Expenditure and Return on Teak Thinnings.

1. JOWLEH BALESHWUR.

Expenditure.		Receipts.		
	Rs. a. p.			Rs. a. p.
August 1851, 21 labourers	19 4 1	All rafters	5,000	
September „ 28 ditto	54 7 2	Deduct rafters given for temple	200	
October „ 20 ditto	34 10 4	Remaining	4,800	
Karkoon's pay	12 0 0	Sold rafters	2,937	169 10 3
Peon's pay for a month and a half	6 0 0	Remaining at department	1,863	
Stationery	0 10 0	Deduct expenditure		126 15 7
			Rs.	42 10 8
		Deduct also one-fourth share to the Patel		10 10 2
Total.... Rs.	126 15 7	Nett profit.... Rs.		32 0 6

2. Parowndee and Budgee.

Trimming Expenses.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.
2 Labourers for seventeen days in November, each at Rs. 3-12-0 per month.....	4	1	7	
Budgee.				
October,—				
To Gungajee	3	0	0	
To Ramjee	3	0	0	
November,—				
To Gungajee	3	0	0	
To Ramjee	3	0	0	
December,—				
To Gungajee, for one day	0	1	7	
To Ramjee, ditto	0	1	7	
Total.... Rs.	16	4	11	

3. Amoondee, Ghora, &c.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
To wages of labourers for cutting 4,100 rafters at Ghora, at Rs. 2 per 100.....	82	0	0	All material	10,316		
Ditto ditto at Sal	82	0	0	Deduct	8,091		
Labour at Borghur.....	1	6	0	Remaining.....	2,225		
Carried forward.... Rs.	165	6	0	Carried forward.... Rs.		....	

Expenditure.				Receipts.						
		Rs.	a.	p.				Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.		165	6	0	Brought forward.... Rs.			.....		
Stationery		0	10	0	Sale,—					
Dewusthan		2	0	0	*Ghora.*					
					2,754	Rafters	Rs. 318	0	0	
					534	Kurees	56	12	0	
					12	Dharuns	2	11	0	
					90	Khoot	23	0	0	
						Firewood	8	0	0	
										408 7 0
					Sal.					
					2,834	Rafters	Rs. 350	10	0	
					348	Kurees	44	4	0	
					47	Dharuns	11	3	0	
										406 1 0
					Amoondee.					
					697	Rafters	Rs. 39	12	0	
					704	Kurees	52	11	3	
										92 7 3
					Borghur.					
					55	Rafters	Rs. 11	0	0	
					15	Kurees	3	2	9	
					1	Log	0	12	0	
						Firewood	0	8	0	
										15 6 9
						Sale of last year's material				107 8 0
					8,091	Total	Rs.			1,029 14 0
						Deduct expenditure of cutting ..	Rs. 168	0	0	
						Keeper's share for five villages..	105	0	1	
						Conservator's ditto ditto ..	105	0	2	
						Patel of Sal, one-fourth share ..	80	11	0	
						Do. of Borghur, ditto ..	3	8	2	
										462 3 5
Total.... Rs.		168	0	0	Nett return.... Rs.					567 10 7

4. Chas and Kuman.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
21 men in August, broken period	33	9	2	Material, including last year's 6,339			
35 ditto September, ditto	67	8	8	Deduct 6,134			
23 ditto October, ditto	12	5	10	Remainder 205			
Kuman.				Sold,—			
10 men in October, broken period	26	13	8	4,454 Rafters	462	1	2
11 ditto November, ditto	25	14	6	1,371 Kurees and dharuns	99	15	3
Carriage of rafters down the hill	1	4	0	3 Bahal rafters	0	14	0
Pay to Karkoon from 1st August to 13th July, at Rs. 6 per month	68	8	3	300 Asolee pieces	8	0	0
Stationery	3	8	0	Firewood	26	0	0
				6,128 Total Rs.	596	14	5
				6 lost.			
				Deduct expenditure	239	8	1
				6,134 Total.			
Total.... Rs.	239	8	1	Nett profit.... Rs.	357	6	4

5. Sheoghur.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
September, 40 men, deducting broken period	32	14	2	Material, including last year's 8,699			
October, 40 ditto ditto	128	11	11	Sales,—			
November, 50 ditto ditto	141	3	2	3,544 Rafters	625	1	8
Carried forward.... Rs.	302	13	3	Carried forward.... Rs.	625	1	8

Expenditure.				Receipts.			
	Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	302	13	3	Brought forward.... Rs.	625	1	8
December, 50 men, deducting broken period	160	5	0	3,050 Rahdia..	310	5	10
May, 6 ditto ditto	16	8	0	82 Bhala	47	4	0
Dewusthan	5	0	0	30 Dharuns	9	4	0
Pay of Karkoon for eleven months	66	0	0	442 Wondas	103	9	0
Stationery	1	14	0	1,062 Kurees	107	14	1
				28 Khandas	25	6	0
				461 Bullocks of firewood	402	0	0
				8,699 Total ..... Rs.	1,630	12	7
				Deduct expenditure	552	8	3
Total.... Rs.	552	8	3	Nett profit.... Rs.	1,078	4	4

6. Kekvee.

Expenditure.				Receipts.			
	Rs.	a.	p.			Rs.	a.	p.
August, 45 men, deducting broken period	54	13	2	Material	10,307			
September, 41 ditto ditto	141	1	2	Deduct	8,319			
October, 41 ditto ditto	134	13	11					
November, 41 ditto ditto	136	5	1	Remaining	1,988			
December, 31 ditto ditto	17	6	7	Sold,—				
Carriage of rafters from Kekvee to Neera bridge ..	84	0	0	333 1st class Rafters, at Rs. 25 per 100		83	4	0
Stationery	2	13	6	592 ditto, at Rs. 17 per 100		100	10	3

Karkoon's pay for eleven and a half months.....			69	0	0	25	2nd class Rafters, at Rs. 17 per 100	3	0	0
Peon's pay for nine and a half months			57	0	0	4,415	Rahdees, at Rs. 8 per 100	353	3	3
						173	Ditto, small	6	14	0
						660	Wondas, small	98	5	0
						27	Ditto, large, at Rs. 37-8-0 per 100....	10	2	0
						600	Khandas	385	5	1
						83	Khambs, at Rs. 25 per 100	20	12	0
						845	Kurees, at Rs. 8 per 100.....	65	9	7
						8	Lug pieces, at Rs. 50 per 100.....	4	0	0
						202	Merees, at Rs. 25 per 100	50	8	0
						84	Dharuns.....	20	0	0
						100	Kambheeras, at Rs. 25 per 100	25	0	0
						150	Turuks	35	0	0
						22	Pakarees, at Rs. 25 per 100.....	5	8	0
							Firewood	196	4	10
						8,319	Total..... Rs.	1,463	6	0
							Deduct expenditure	697	5	5
	Total.... Rs.		697	5	5		Profit.... Rs.	766	0	7

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7. Kondvee Peta, Ryghur Talooka.

Expenditure.					Receipts.				
			Rs.	a.	p.			Rs.	a.	p.
August,	30 men, broken period.....		31	6	6	Material, including last year's.....	8,983			
September,	25 ditto ditto		81	4	0	Sales,—				
October,	30 ditto ditto		37	12	4	3,583 Rafters, at Rs. 10 per 100		358	4	0
	Carried forward.... Rs.		150	6	10	Carried forward.... Rs.		358	4	0

Expenditure.				Receipts.				
		Rs.	a.	p.			Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward....	Rs.	150	6	10	Brought forward....	Rs.	358	4	0
December, 18 men, broken period.....		58	8	0	5,300 Rafters put to debit of Engineer Department, Kurrachee, at Rs. 30 per 100....		1,590	0	0
January, 24 ditto ditto		73	12	0	Refuse.....		38	0	0
Carriage of rafters to Koomla bunder..		332	0	0					
Selecting rafters		50	0	0					
Dewusthan		4	8	0	8,883 Total	Rs.	1,986	4	0
Stationery.....		2	14	0	100 Rafters given to a Brahmin.				
Karkoon's pay for eleven months		66	0	0					
Peon's pay for September		5	0	0	8,983				
Keeper for four months at Koomla.....		16	0	0	Deduct expenditure.....		760	11	10
Putting rafters on board.....		1	11	0					
Total....	Rs.	760	11	10	Nett profit....	Rs.	1,225	8	2

8. Villages in the Ryghur and Rajpooree Talookas.

Expenditure.				Receipts.				
	Rs.	a.	p.			Rs.	a.	p.
1. *Veer.*								
Labour.....	68	3	0	All material	14,859			
Carriage of rafters to bunder	92	1	0	Deduct	12,200			
2. *Dasgaum.*								
Labour.....	35	3	5	Remainder.....	2,659			
3. *Wurpar.*				Sold to Engineer, Kurrachee,—				
Labour.....	99	3	6	1,614 Rafters, at Rs. 60 per 100		968	6	5
				2,203 Ditto 40 ditto		881	3	2

Carriage of rafters to bunder	80	11	2
4. Advee.			
Labour	19	13	4
Carriage of rafters to bunder	28	0	0
5. Bhandewlee.			
Labour	8	10	7
Carriage of rafters to bunder	8	12	5
6. Dabhol.			
Labour	11	10	1
Carriage of rafters to bunder	13	11	0
7. Kokray.			
Labour	1	4	7
Carriage of rafters to bunder	0	9	6
8. Kooshrell.			
Labour	24	7	1
Carriage of rafters	43	5	0
9. Mulatee.			
Labour	21	3	1
Carriage of rafters	14	8	0
10. Maktee.			
Labour	154	6	8
Carriage of rafters	514	6	6
11. Nigrowlee.			
Labour	4	9	8
Carriage of rafters	4	0	0
Stationery	6	7	0
Karkoon's pay for eleven months and sixteen days..	69	3	0
Total.... Rs.	1,324	5	7

800	Ditto	40	ditto	320	0 0
378	Ditto	30	ditto	113	6 4
361	Ditto	30	ditto	108	4 10
	Sold to private men,—				
90	Rafters, at Rs. 10 per 100			9	0 0
4,192	Ditto	21-12-0	ditto	911	12 2
330	Carts, at Rs. 1 each			330	0 0
275	Ditto	ditto		275	0 0
	Firewood			27	0 0
	Given to Khotes, &c.—				
90	to Kooshiar Temple.				
600	to Khote of Maktee.				
567	Khote of Maktee's share.				
500	to Khote of Wurpar.				
200	to Khote of Bhandewlee, to be returned.				
12,200	Total		Rs.	3,944	0 11

Deduct,—					
Share of Veer Khote	Rs.	235	13 0		
Share of Wurpar Khote		258	2 3		
Share of Advee		89	4 6		
Share of Bhandewlee		30	14 11		
Share of Mulatee		26	0 7		
Share of Maktee		71	2 4		
Share of Soorghur		110	0 0		
Share of Rankulatee		91	10 8		
Expenses of cutting, &c.		1,324	5 7		
				2,237	5 10
Profit.... Rs.				1,706	11 1

9. Nagotna.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.
December, 136 men, broken period	144	10	1
October, 67 ditto ditto	35	3	8
January, selecting rafters	5	7	11
Carriage of rafters to bunder	137	7	0
Cutting and carrying crooks to bunder	45	4	0
Putting rafters on board	7	10	5
Keeper's pay for five months and four days	16	2	0
Stationery	2	2	0
Pay to Dadjee Jemedar, for eleven months, at Rs. 15 per month	165	0	0
Total.... Rs.	558	15	1

Receipts.				Rs.	a.	p.
	All material		8,902			
	Deduct		8,652			
	Remainder		250			
3,869	Rafters sold to Kurrachee Engineer			1,354	2	5
	Sold to private dealers,—					
4,511	Rafters, at Rs. 13 per 100			586	6	11
268	Carts, at Rs. 1 each			268	0	0
4	small Beams			4	0	0
	Refuse			44	12	4
8,652	Total			2,257	5	8
Deduct,—						
	Quarter share of Sookhelee Patel. Rs.	99	2 6			
	Ditto Madhowshet do.	192	11 0			
	Ditto Aynghur ditto	31	15 9			
	One-third share of Nagotna Khote	44	13 7			
	Hedolee Inamdar and Khote	4	14 8			
	Expenses	558	15 1			
				932	8	7
	Profit.... Rs.			1,324	13	1

10. Chowna and Tooksaee.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.		Rs.	a.	p.
September, 87 men, broken period	124	13	11	All rafters	8,631			
October, 87 ditto ditto	69	8	3	Deduct	8,301			
Selecting rafters	24	11	6	Remainder	330			
Putting rafters on board	26	0	0	301 Rafters sold		33	12	2
Stationery	0	9	0	8,000 Do. sold to Engineer, Kurrachee, at Rs. 30 per 100		2,400	0	0
Carriage of rafters to bunder	1,120	0	0	8,301 Total	Rs.	2,433	12	2
Karkoon's pay for eight months	64	0	0	Deduct,—				
				Expenses	Rs. 1,429 10 8			
				Granted to Patels of the villages.	100 0 0			
						1,529	10	8
Total.... Rs.	1,429	10	8	Nett profit .... Rs.		904	1	6

11. Neephar.

Expenditure.				Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.		Rs.	a.	p.
Cutting Expenditure.							All material, including last year's remainder	5,873			
November, labour	Rs.	48	15 4				Deduct	5,873			
March, do.		106	1 3						....		
June, do.		6	8 0								
				161	8	7					
Carried forward.... Rs.				161	8	7	Carried forward.... Rs.		....		

Expenditure.				Receipts.			
	Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	161	8	7	Brought forward.... Rs.	....		
Thinning Expenditure.				2,607 Rafters sold to Kurrachee Engineer.....	912	1	7
November, labour ..... Rs. 0 1 6				200 Ditto at Rs. 85-7-0 per 100	170	14	0
December, do. 43 4 11				1,607 Ditto at Rs. 8 ditto	128	9	0
January, do. 3 7 3				400 Ditto at Rs. 4 ditto	16	0	0
March, do. 2 5 3				830 Ditto at Rs. 12 ditto	99	10	4
April, do. 30 4 4				104 Ditto	10	3	0
	79	7	3	2 Ditto at Rs. 25 ditto	0	8	0
Stationery	1	4	0	21 Carts, at Rs. 1 each	21	0	0
Dewusthan	0	12	0	Charcoal.....	27	0	0
Karkoon	15	0	0	5,771 Total.			
Peon's pay for eleven months, at Rs. 6 per month..	66	0	0	102 destroyed by worms.			
				5,873 Total ..... Rs.	1,385	13	11
				Deduct expenses.....	323	15	10
Total.... Rs.	323	15	10	Nett profit.... Rs.	1,061	14	1

12. Nuroda.

Expenditure.				Receipts.			
	Rs.	a.	p.			Rs.	a.	p.
September, 41 men, deducting broken period	80	7	8	All material	5,445			
October, 23 ditto ditto	25	8	8	Deduct	4,982			
November, 25 ditto ditto	22	14	8	Remainder	463			
December, 15 ditto ditto	45	0	0					

Stationery	1	14	0	2,495	Rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 30 per 100	748	8	0
Dewusthan	1	8	0	1,812	Ditto sold	221	8	10
Carriage of rafters down the hill	70	12	0	237	Ditto	109	2	0
Carriage of ditto to bunder	156	12	1	21	Ditto	0	4	6
Karkoon's pay for eleven months, deducting broken period, at Rs. 6 per month	62	4	1		Firewood	7	0	0
Peon's pay	62	12	0	4,565	Total.			
					Add presents of,—			
				125	Rafters to Bapoo Gorbote.			
				150	Ditto Kullotta temple.			
				100	Ditto Bapdeo.			
				42	Lost.			
				4,982	Total ..... Rs.	1,086	7	4
					Deduct expenditure	529	13	2
Total.... Rs.	529	13	2		Profit.... Rs.	556	10	2

13. Manowlee and Wurosee.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.		Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Labour at Manowlee	10	8	0	640	Rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 30 per 100.	192	0	0
Wurosee,—				100	Ditto sold	9	0	0
September, 15 men, broken period	20	7	9	11	Ditto	11	0	0
October, 10 ditto ditto	27	13	11	751				
Carried forward.... Rs.	58	13	8		Carried forward.... Rs.	212	0	0

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	58	13	8
November, 10 men, broken period.....	22	9	6
December, 10 ditto ditto	28	8	8
Stationery.....	0	10	0
Writing.....	1	4	3
Peon's pay.....	27	0	0
Carriage of rafters to bunder	63	0	0
Total.... Rs.	201	14	1

	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
	Brought forward.... Rs.	212	0	0
	Firewood	3	6	0
751				
203	One-third Share of Manowlee Patel (Aeenjins).			
954	Total ..... Rs.	215	6	0
	Deduct,—			
	Expenses ..... Rs. 201 14 1			
	Present to Manowlee Patel 24 0 0			
		225	14	1
	Deficiency.... Rs.	10	8	1

14. KHANDUS.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.
September, 30 men, broken period.....	9	12	0
October, 43 ditto ditto	99	9	2
November, 21 ditto ditto	38	7	3
January, 4 ditto ditto	4	12	0
Stationery.....	6	12	6
Bringing rafters down the hill.....	23	0	0

	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
	All material.....	3,301		
	Deduct	2,901		
	Remainder.....	400		
	2,000 Rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 35 per 100.....	700	0	0

Carriage of rafters to bunder	300	0	0	901	Rafters sold	101	12	0
Karkoon's pay for nine months, deducting broken period, at Rs. 8 per month	70	11	4	2,901	Total ..... Rs.	801	12	0
					Deduct expenses	553	0	3
Total.... Rs.	553	0	3		Nett profit.... Rs.	248	11	9

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15. KOLWAN.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.		Rs.	a.	p.
Cutting 1,874 rafters, at Rs. 3 per 100	56	3	0	All material, including last year's remainder	7,558			
Ditto 2,704 ditto, at Rs. 2 ditto	54	0	0	Deduct	7,283			
Ditto 1,442 ditto, at Rs. 2 ditto	28	12	6					
Carriage of rafters to bunder	1,229	4	10	Remainder	275			
Stationery	0	15	6	838 Rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 60 per 100		502	12	9
Karkoon's pay for eleven months	66	0	0	4,803 ditto ditto at Rs. 40 ditto..		1,921	3	2
Storing up the rafters	15	7	0	200 ditto sold at Rs. 15 ditto..		30	0	0
				234 ditto ditto 35 ditto..		81	14	4
				1,208 ditto ditto 37-8-0 ditto..		453	0	0
				Sale of Blackwood		158	1	0
				7,283 Total ..... Rs.		3,146	15	3
				Deduct expenses		1,450	10	10
Total.... Rs.	1,450	10	10	Nett profit.... Rs.		1,696	4	5

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16. Kamun.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
September, 72 men, broken period	68	14	0	All rafters 8,241			
October, 90 ditto ditto	94	5	0	4,100 Rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 30 per 100	1,230	0	0
November, 15 ditto ditto	3	4	0	4,141 Rafters sold	425	6	0
December, 20 ditto ditto	20	12	0	Firewood	13	0	0
January, 13 ditto ditto	40	10	0				
Stationery	1	15	0				
Dewusthan	2	0	0	8,241 Total ..... Rs.	1,668	6	0
Carrying rafters down the hill	125	0	0	Deduct expenses	523	13	2
Ditto ditto to bunder	61	8	0				
Karkoon's pay	68	1	2				
Peon's pay from 1st November to 15th June, at Rs. 5 per month	37	8	0				
Total.... Rs.	523	13	2	Nett profit.... Rs.	1,144	8	10

17. Kassimeera.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
September, 21 men, broken period	63	14	11	All material 3,228			
October, 14 ditto ditto	30	14	9	300 Rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 35 per 100.	105	0	0
January and February, 10 ditto	48	12	11	Sold Rafters of superior sort,—			
Carriage of rafters to bunder	40	0	0	200 at Rs. 8 per corge of 20	80	0	0
Dewusthan	4	0	0	100 do. 7 ditto	35	0	0

Stationery			1	10	0	300 do. 10 ditto	150	0	0
Karkoon's pay for eleven months			66	0	0	100 do. 4 ditto	20	0	0
Labour			0	10	2	39 for whole lot	10	0	0
						Of inferior sort,—			
						200 at Rs. ·5 per 100	10	0	0
						60 do. 4-6-0 do.	2	10	0
						291 for whole lot	8	6	0
						59 Posts	30	0	0
						1,475 Saprees (small pieces of rafters), at Rs. 6 per 1,000	9	0	0
						89 Kurees	30	0	0
						Firewood	11	0	0
						15 large Rafters	14	0	0
						3,228 Total Rs.	515	0	0
						Deduct expenses	255	14	9
Total.... Rs.			255	24	9	Nett return.... Rs.	259	1	3

18. Darolee and Kalewlee.

Expenditure.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
	Last year's remainder, rafters 421			
	421 Rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 60 per 100.	252	9	7
	Total.... Rs.	252	9	7

19. Waghosee.

Expenditure.		Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
		Last year's remainder, rafters..... 400			
		400 rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 60 per 100.	240	0	0
		Deduct one-third share of Waghosee Khote	80	0	0
		Nett return.... Rs.	160	0	0

20. Loharee.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Carriage of rafters to Mahar bunder, to be sent to Sind	8	13	6	Rafters remaining from last year..... 391			
Pay of Sepoy.....	1	2	6	100 rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 30 per 100.	30	0	0
				291 ditto sold, at Rs. 24 per 100	69	13	6
				391 Total ..... Rs.	99	13	6
				Deduct,—			
				Expenses ..... Rs. 10 0 0			
				One-third share of Khote..... 27 11 7			
					37	11	7
Total.. .. Rs.	10	0	0	Nett return.... Rs.	62	1	11

21. Ban Tewra.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Carriage of rafters to bunder	83	3	2	Last year's rafters ..... 5,787 5,787 rafters sent to Kurrachee, at Rs. 60 per 100	3,472	3	2
				Deduct expenses	83	3	2
Total.... Rs.	83	3	2	Nett return.... Rs.	3,389	0	0

22. Bheemthuree.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
September, *Kasoordee*, labour, 8 men.....	11	15	10	Payments on account of last year,—			
October, Do. do. 14 men.....	16	14	3	Pimpulgaum	5	12	9
November, Do. do. 17 men.....	44	3	11	Walkee	55	2	0
Walkee, do. 16 men.....	37	6	0	Khamgaum	33	8	0
December, *Khamgaum*, do. 18 men.....	44	9	6	Aptee.....	2	2	4
Walkee, do. 13 men.....	39	0	0	Present year,—			
January, *Khamgaum*, do. 21 men.....	52	5	2	Bheemthuree:			
Walkee, do. 14 men.....	39	15	5	*Kasoordee*.—Proceeds of firewood	87	10	6
Phoolgaum, do. 8 men.....	12	13	9	*Pimpulgaum*.—Babool pods and leaves	35	2	0
Carried forward.... Rs.	299	3	10	Carried forward.... Rs.	219	5	7

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	299	3	10
February, *Khamgaum*, labour, 19 men.....	48	15	9
Walkee, do. 16 men.....	40	5	9
March, *Khamgaum*, do. 20 men.....	7	15	4
Walkee, do. 15 men.....	5	7	9
For defining boundaries	15	10	0
On account of grass land injured, paid to farmer..	3	8	0
Karkoon	32	0	0
Manoojee Bapoojee Sepoy	2	0	0
Stationery.....	0	14	0

Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	219	5	7
Nandoor.			
Firewood	190	14	5
Pods, &c.	1	12	0
Khamgaum.			
Firewood	226	0	11
Building wood	28	4	0
Pods, &c.	10	0	0
Walkee.			
Firewood.....	319	0	2
Building wood	5	8	0
Pods, &c.	6	10	0
Koregaum Bewar.—Pods, &c.....	3	3	0
Bolae.—Ditto	1	10	0
Bhewree.—Ditto	1	14	0
Hingungaum.—Ditto	18	8	0
Khamgaum Tek.			
Pods, &c.	28	0	0
Sundries	1	0	0
Koregaum Mool.—Pods, &c.	5	0	0
Kolowree.			
Pods, &c.	18	0	0
Sundries.....	4	0	0
Khangaum.			
Firewood	15	12	0
Pods, &c.	63	0	0

Total.... Rs.	456	0	5

Sundries	1	0	0
Nangaum.—Pods, &c.	5	0	0
Phoolgaum.—Firewood	54	0	0
PABUL:			
Tullegaum.—Pods, &c.	19	6	0
Wuroo Boodrook.—Ditto	0	13	0
Taklee.—Ditto	3	4	0
Aptee.—Ditto	3	13	0
HUWAILEE:			
Lonee.			
Firewood	3	0	0
Pods	19	4	0
Sundries	3	0	0
Mandree.			
Firewood	2	10	0
Pods, &c.	5	0	0
Sundries	1	12	0
Mandree Khoord.—Pods and wood	5	4	0
Rs.	1,294	8	1
Deduct expenditure	456	0	5
Profit.... Rs.	838	7	8

23. MALWAN.

Expenditure.

	Rs.	a.	p.
September, 12 men	42	0	0
October, 12 men, broken period	23	0	0
November, 12 men, 15 days	35	0	0
Carrying rafters to bunder	151	0	0
Carried forward.... Rs.	251	0	0

Receipts.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Proceeds of small wood	19	8	0
775 rafters sent to Sind, at Rs. 40 per 100	310	0	0
Rs.	329	8	0
Carried forward.... Rs.	329	8	0

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	251	0	0	Brought forward.... Rs.	329	8	0
Paid for storing up remainder of rafters at end of season	10	9	0	Deduct expenses.....	261	9	0
Total.... Rs.	261	9	0	Profit.... Rs.	67	15	0
				N. B.—1,250 rafters remain on the bunder for sale.			

24. Office Stationery.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.
Stationery for office	6	12	0	
Total.... Rs.	6	12	0	

25. Miscellaneous.

Expenditure.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
	Fine levied on boat contractor for delay.....	12	0	0
	Total.... Rs.	12	0	0

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APPENDIX B.

Money paid to Khotes, Patels, Keepers, &c. for Conservation.

Tanna Zilla.	*Ryghur and Rajpooree Talookas.*			
	Veer Khote, one-third share	Rs.	235	13 0
	Wurpar do. do. (not paid)		258	2 3
	Advee do. do.		89	4 6
	Bhandewlee do. do.		30	14 11
	Mulatee do. do. (not paid)		26	0 7
	Maktee do. do.		71	2 4
	Soorghur do. do.		110	0 0
	Rankulatee do. do.		91	10 8
	Loharee do. do.		27	11 7
	Waghosee do. do.		80	0 0
	Sanksee Talooka.			
	Sookhelee Patel, one-fourth share		99	2 6
	Madhowshet do. do.		192	11 0
	Aynghur do. do.		31	15 9
	Nagotna Khote, one-third share (not paid)		44	13 7
	Hedowlee Inamdar and Khote		4	14 8
	To Patels of Chowna, Tooksaee, and Oomur Khind, present for conservation		100	0 0
	Nusrapoor Talooka.			
	* Manowlee Patel, present for conservation		24	0 0
Poona Zilla.	* Jowleh Baleshwur Patel, one-fourth share		10	10 2
	* Five preserved villages at Ghora, keeper's one-fifth share.		105	0 1
	* Ditto ditto Conservator's ditto		105	0 2
	* Sal Patel, one-fourth share (not paid)		80	11 0
	* Borghur Patel, one-fourth share		3	8 2
	Total....	Rs.	1,823	2 11

MEMORANDUM.—The present to the Manowlee Patel was paid by Dr. Gibson out of the sanction for Teak cutting. The rest in the Tanna Collectorate are paid or to be paid from a separate sanction through the Collector of Tanna. The ones in the Poona Collectorate from old sanctions continuing from year to year.

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Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX C.

Rafters given on various Accounts.

Nuroda.

Manowlee Patel, for conservation, one-third share	Rs.	203
Bapoo Gorbole, for service in Teak conservation		125
Kullotta temple		150
Bapdeo temple		100

Ryghur.

Temple at Koosheree		90
Khote of Maktee, present for conservation		600
Do. do. one-third share		567
Khote of Wurpar, present for conservation		500
Khote of Bhandewlee, to be returned		200

Kondvee.

To a Brahmin		100

Jowleh Baleshwur.

For temple		200
Total....	Rs.	2,835

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Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX D.

Rafters supplied to Kurrachee Barracks.

Places where Rafters were cut.	Bunder of Export.	Number of Rafters.	Sold per 100.	Amount.		
			Rs.	Rs.	a.	p.
Kondvee	Koomla	5,300	30	1,590	0	0
Ryghur and Rajpooree Talookas,—						
Veer	Tol	2,203	40	881	3	2
Wurpar	Tol	1,614	60	968	6	5
Advee	Tol	800	40	320	0	0
Bhandewlee	Tol	378	30	113	6	4
Mulatee	Mulatee	361	30	108	4	10
Nagotna	Nagotna....	3,869	35	1,354	2	5
Chowna and Tooksaee	Antore	8,000	30	2,400	0	0
Neephar	Doorset	2,607	35	912	1	7
Nuroda	Panwell	2,495	30	748	8	0
Manowlee and Wurosee	Ditto	640	30	192	0	0
Kandus	Ditto	2,000	35	700	0	0
Kolwan	Bombay	838	60	502	12	9
Kolwan	Kallian	4,803	40	1,921	3	2
Kamun	Kamun	4,100	30	1,230	0	0
Kassimeera	Ghora	300	35	105	0	0
Loharee	Koomla	100	30	30	0	0
Ban Tewra	Bombay	5,787	60	3,472	3	2
Malwan	Surjkot	775	40	310	0	0
Waghosee	Bombay....	400	60	240	0	7
Darolee Kalowlee	Ditto	421	60	252	9	0
Total....	....	47,791	..	18,351	13	5

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Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX E.

General Table of Expenditure and Return.

No.	Places.	Expenditure.			Return.		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1	Jowleh Baleshwur	137	9	9	169	10	3
2	Parowndee and Budgee	16	4	11	....		
3	Amoondee, Ghora, &c.	462	3	5	1,029	14	0
4	Chas Kuman	239	8	1	596	14	5
5	Sheoghur	552	8	3	1,630	12	7
6	Kekvee	697	5	5	1,463	6	0
7	Kondvee Peta	760	11	10	1,986	4	0
8	Villages in Ryghur and Rajpooree Talookas	2,237	5	10	3,944	0	14
9	Nagotna	932	8	7	2,257	5	8
10	Chowna and Tooksaee	1,529	10	8	2,433	12	2
11	Neephar	323	15	10	1,385	13	11
12	Nuroda	529	13	2	1,086	7	4
13	Manowlee and Wurosee	225	14	1	215	6	0
14	Kandus	553	0	3	801	12	0
15	Kolwan	1,450	10	10	3,146	15	3
16	Kuman	525	13	2	1,668	6	0
17	Kassimeera	255	14	9	515	0	0
18	Darolee and Kalowlee	....			252	9	7
19	Waghosee	80	0	0	240	0	0
20	Loharee	37	12	7	99	13	6
21	Ban Tewra	83	3	2	3,472	3	2
22	Bheemthuree	456	0	5	1,294	8	1
23	Malwan	261	9	0	329	8	0
24	Stationery	6	12	0	....		
25	Repayment by a boat contractor	....			12	0	0
	Total expenditure.... Rs.	12,354	3	0			
	Total returns..... Rs.				30,032	6	10
	Deduct expenditure.....				12,354	3	0
	Nett profit.... Rs.				17,678	3	10

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Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX F.

General Table of Receipts and Disbursements.

Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.	Disbursements.	Rs.	a.	p.
1. *Sanction.*				1. *Expenditure*, as per Appendix E.....	12,354	3	4
Dr. Gibson.—Thinning and Sind rafters....	9,000	0	0	2. *Balance* paid to J. W. Muspratt, Esq.,			
Bheemthuree.....	300	0	0	General Paymaster, by letter No. 649,			
Dr. Stocks.—Thinning and Sind rafters.....	625	0	0	dated 17th October 1852.....	37	0	4
Bheemthuree.....	160	0	0	3. *Deficiency* not traceable	7	5	11
2. *Interest*.....	33	1	5				
3. *Sale* of materials	469	4	11				
4. *Khotes' Shares* in the Tanna Collectorate.....	1,494	5	4				
5. *Patels, Keepers, and Share* to Conservator in the Poona Collectorate.....	304	13	7				
6. *Repayment* by a boat contractor	12	0	0				
Total.... Rs.	12,398	9	3	Total ... Rs.	12,398	9	3

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APPENDIX G.

Chowsaleh Depôt.

Expenses.				Receipts.				
		Rs.	a.	p.			Rs.	a.	p.
2,020 pieces of Teak timber brought from the Dang, at an average price of Rs. 1-13-10		3,781	14	9	March.	Wood sold, 83 pieces	137	0	0
Pay of Karkoon from November to January, inclusive, at Rs. 6 per month	Rs. 18 0 0				April.	Wood sold, 8 pieces	8	8	0
					May.	Wood sold, 24 pieces	39	0	0
						Small pieces of wood	27	3	2
Pay of Karkoon from February to June, inclusive, at Rs. 15 per month	75 0 0				July.	Sold to Executive Engineer at Khandeish, 1,060 pieces of Teak	4,146	7	4
		93	0	0					
						Rs.	4,358	2	6
						Deduct expenses	3,874	14	9
Total.... Rs.		3,874	14	9		Nett profit.... Rs.	483	3	9
					Memo.—To be sold 960 pieces, which will fetch probably		2,437	2	6

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APPENDIX H.

Penth Hursool Account.

Expenditure.	Returns from Fees on Teak.	Rs.	a.	p.
	Purguna Penth, station.....	3,447	6	3
	Purguna Hursool, station.....	1,550	9	3
	Purguna Malligaum, station.....	2,267	11	7
	Purguna Bareh.....	1,380	14	3
	Fines	33	8	0
	Total.... Rs.	8,680	1	4

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APPENDIX J.

Jungle Fee Accounts.

Talookas.	Amount for which the Talooka was Farmed.	Produce from Sale of Confiscated Wood.	Amount Realised by Fees levied by Mamlutdar.	Amount Realised by Fees levied by Custom Collector.	Gross Produce.	Expense of Mamlutdar's Establishment.	Expense of Custom Establishment.	Total of Expense.	Nett Profit.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Sunjan	3,600 0 0	.....	215 4 0	.....	3,815 4 0	54 9 7	.....	54 9 7	3,760 10 5
Mahim	2,100 0 0	.....	.....	.....	2,100 0 0	.....	.....	.....	2,100 0 0
Bassein	3,035 0 0	.....	.....	1,240 15 10	4,275 15 10	98 5 6	590 7 3	688 12 9	3,587 3 1
Bhewndy.....	2,000 0 0	.....	.....	.....	2,000 0 0	.....	.....	.....	2,000 0 0
Kolwan	.....	.....	609 4 2	.....	609 4 2	261 15 3	.....	261 15 3	347 4 11
Salsette	.....	.....	676 15 2	.....	676 15 2	80 6 5	.....	80 6 5	596 8 9
Kallian	130 0 0	8 5 3	72 12 6	797 10 2	1,008 11 11	21 6 3	101 10 11	123 1 2	885 10 9
Moorbar	.....	15 2 3	10 13 9	.....	26 0 0	.....	.....	.....	26 0 0
Nusrapore	.....	33 13 3	386 12 11	.....	420 10 2	113 9 9	.....	113 9 9	307 0 5
Tullojeh	.....	.....	35 1 3	.....	35 1 3	5 5 4	.....	5 5 4	29 11 11
Panwell	.....	.....	340 8 3	54 2 7	394 10 10	157 2 7	.....	157 2 7	237 8 3
Sanksee	.....	.....	1,711 4 11	613 13 6	2,324 2 5	398 7 4	.....	398 7 4	1,925 11 1
Rajpooree	.....	7 4 0	540 12 3	855 6 10	1,403 7 1	88 1 6	.....	88 1 6	1,315 5 7
Ryghur	126 0 0	.....	123 7 2	.....	249 7 2	.....	.....	.....	249 7 2
Total..Rs.	10,991 0 0	64 8 9	4,723 0 4	3,561 0 11	19,339 10 0	1,279 5 6	692 2 2	1,971 7 8	17,368 2 4

Deduct,—Paid refund of instalment to Sukaram Moreshwur, farmer of Kallian	Rs. 130 0 0	
Present to ditto by way of compensation	100 0 0	
Refund to Bassein farmer of fees levied and collected by the Custom Collector	127 12 6	
Refund to Bhewndy farmer of fees levied and collected in Kolwan	14 4 0	
		372 0 6
	Total....Rs.	16,996 1 10

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APPENDIX K.

Amount realised by Fines, and Sales of Confiscated Wood.

Zillas and Talookas.	Amount of Fine.	Present to Informer or Thief Taker.	Remaining Balance.	Amount of Sales of Confiscated Wood.	Total Amount realised.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Tanna Zilla.					
Sunjan Talooka	22 12 0	3 6 0	19 6 0	10 10 9	30 0 9
Mahim „	10 8 0	.....	10 8 0	88 2 6	98 10 6
Bassein „	13 8 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	10 1 9	16 13 9
Kolwan „	46 2 0	27 10 0	18 8 0	75 11 0	94 3 0
Bhewndy „	26 5 6	4 8 0	21 13 6	27 12 7	49 10 1
Salsette „	2 0 0	.....	2 0 0	1 2 11	3 2 11
Kallian „	9 2 2	.....	9 2 2	32 11 2	41 13 4
Moorbar „	87 10 0	28 11 0	58 15 0	13 15 2	72 14 2
Nusrapore „	9 12 9	3 8 0	6 4 9	9 3 0	15 7 9
Tullojeh „	3 0 0	.....	3 0 0	1 5 7	4 5 7
Panwell „	22 6 0	11 10 0	10 12 0	7 9 1	18 5 1
Sanksee „	85 13 0	20 14 6	64 14 6	4 13 2	69 11 8
Rajpooree „	41 8 0	0 12 0	40 12 0	6 5 7	47 1 7
Ryghur „	77 4 0	24 12 0	52 8 0	13 9 2	66 1 2
Surat Zilla	.....	.....	.....	9 4 0	9 4 0
Poona Zilla.					
Sewnere Talooka	12 4 0	.....	12 4 0	1 7 8	13 11 8
Khair „	33 4 0	1 8 0	31 12 0	2 14 6	34 10 6
Bheemthuree „	7 0 0	1 0 0	6 0 0	1 5 6	7 5 6
Poorundhur „	17 0 0	2 8 0	14 8 0	5 4 0	19 12 0
Huvailee „	14 0 0	6 10 0	7 6 0	10 14 11	18 4 11
Total..... Rs.	541 3 5	144 1 6	397 1 11	334 4 0	731 5 11

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APPENDIX L.

Dockyard Supplies.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Return.	Rs.	a.	p.
Seventy-five (75) crooks, one to a cart, for cart-hire and cutting, at eleven (11) Rupees apiece	825	0	0	One (1) 1st class crook, at Rs. 400 per score....	20	0	0
Three hundred and fifty-three (353) crooks, one to a cart, for cart-hire and cutting, at nine (9) Rupees apiece	3,177	0	0	Seventy-six (76) 2nd class crooks, at Rs. 312-7-5 per score	1,187	5	9
Eighty-seven (87) crooks, one to a cart, for cart-hire and cutting, 81 at seven (7) Rupees apiece..	567	0	0	Three hundred and fifty-four (354) 3rd class crooks, at Rs. 209-2-6 per score	3,702	1	0
6 at nine (9) Rupees apiece..	54	0	0	One hundred and seventy-two (172) 4th class crooks, at Rs. 92-15-5 per score	799	7	9
One hundred (100) crooks, two to a cart, for cart-hire and cutting, at seven (7) Rupees for two ..	350	0	0	Two (2) 2nd class knees, at Rs. 207-13-10 per score.	20	12	7
One hundred and ninety-eight (198) boat timbers, for cart-hire and cutting, at 4 annas apiece	49	8	0	One (1) 3rd ditto ditto 171-2-7 ditto ..	8	11	4
				Nine (9) 4th ditto ditto 116-1-9 ditto ..	52	3	11
				One hundred and ninety-eight (198) small timbers, at Rs. 11 per score	108	14	4
Total charges to the coast.... Rs.	5,022	8	0	Rs.	5,899	8	8
Add to Bombay 18 boats, at Rs. 30	540	0	0	Deduct expenditure.....	5,892	8	0
1 boat, at Rs. 15	15	0	0				
Total charge on rafters.... Rs.	5,577	8	0				
Add pay of Maistree for nine (9) months, at Rs. 35 per month	315	0	0				
Total.... Rs.	5,892	8	0	Nett return.... Rs.	7	0	8

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Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX M.

Establishment.

Sanctioned charges for establishment, at Rs. 183-12-0 per month, for twelve months..... Rs.	2,205	0	0
Hungamee Karkoon, for twelve months, at Rs. 15 per month	180	0	0
Total..... Rs.	2,385	0	0

(Signed) J. E. STOCKS,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX N.

Summary.

Profit on Teak thinning under Conservator, as per Appendix E.. Rs.	17,678	3	10
Profit of Chowsaleh depôt, as per Appendix G	483	3	9
Return from Teak in Penth, as per Appendix H.....	8,680	1	4
Nett proceeds from jungle fees, as per Appendix J	16,996	1	10
Nett return from fines, as per Appendix K.....	731	5	11
Profit on Dockyard supplies, as per Appendix L.....	7	0	8
Total.... Rs.	44,576	1	4
Deduct establishment, as per Appendix M	2,385	0	0
Total nett proceeds.... Rs.	42,191	1	4

(Signed) J. E. STOCKS,
Conservator of Forests.

Certified, that the above accounts, errors excepted, to the best of my knowledge, are correct, and the expenses paid or to be paid solely on public service.

J. E. STOCKS,
Conservator of Forests.

REPORT FOR 1852-53.

REPORT FOR 1852-53.

As Dr. Stocks has in his progress report (sent in on 1st June) laid before the Board and Government most of the information connected with the active operations of the past season, *i.e.* from August 1852 to the end of May 1853, it is not necessary that I should occupy the attention of the authorities further than may suffice to give a general view of the present state of the forest; the general results of the active operations of the year, showing the actual amount which has been through them realised to the public treasury, and to indicate the measures deemed necessary in the ensuing season.

It will conduce to clearness that I take the countries to be noticed in their natural divisions, beginning with the most northerly.

SIND FORESTS.

2. With respect to these, my information is at present not very full.

Reference was made to Dr. Stocks, through the Commissioner, on the subject of two most important schemes which had been proposed by the present Forest Ranger. The first of these related to a plan for giving a share-interest in the forest lands, and the right of cultivation in the open parts of the forest lands, to certain Zemindars, on condition of their collecting and handing over to Government one-fourth of the fees collected in the forest.

3. The plan appeared to be attended with much risk, and tended to confer rights where none had previously existed,—rights which it might be difficult hereafter to divest the parties of in case of circumstances arising to require this to be done; therefore Dr. Stocks gave (as it appears to me), on very just grounds, an opinion unfavourable to the scheme.

4. The second proposal was to make over the whole produce of the forests on a five years' lease to an American gentleman, Mr. Gardner.

5. Looking to the permanent benefit of the forests, the terms and conditions proposed appeared to be less advantageous to Government than to the renter, and the tendency of the conditions wherewith the offer was accompanied

appeared decidedly to lead to a monopoly, and was accompanied by vexatious restrictions, very likely to have produced on the part of the people discontent, and on the part of the renter or his subordinates a considerable amount of oppression;—in fact, all the evils of an exclusive rule, with a white man directly interested in enforcing its conditions. For these reasons, Dr. Stocks gave an opinion adverse to this plan also, and in the reasons whereon this opinion was grounded I fully concur.

NORTHERN FORESTS, AND SURAT AND BULSAR TIMBER DEPARTMENT.

6. Regarding the present state of these, our information is defective, but I hope that ere this report be concluded I shall have received Mr. Fenner's annual statement, in which case it will be made to form an appendix.

7. From what we do know, it appears that Mr. Fenner has been encouragingly successful in gathering in arrears of outstanding balances, and that he has judiciously reduced the amount of advances made to timber cutters by minimising these to the sum actually necessary for the support of their families while the head is absent in the forest.

8. I do not find that the forest itself has had much attention, either from the First or the Second Assistant, and indeed Mr. Fenner expresses himself as much dissatisfied with the conduct of the Second Assistant, Mr. Davidson.

9. On the whole, I think it may be for the benefit of the service that the intention of having the Second Assistant appointed as *such*, instead of his being merely an Assistant to the First Assistant in his capacity of Northern Agent, should be carried out, as it is both expedient and desirable that he should correspond direct with the Conservator, especially with the view of keeping the latter regularly informed of the state of the forests which he may have visited.

During 1848, 1849, and 1850, this practice was always followed by the late Second Assistant, Mr. Harvey, when in the forests, as in fixing the boundaries, &c.

FORTY-THREE VILLAGES OF WAUGPORE TUPPA, NOWAPOORA MAHAL.

10. The dispute regarding the ownership of these, viz. whether it be His Highness the Gaekwar or the British Government, yet remains unadjusted, consequently the cut timber which was attached in 1848 still is or ought to be in deposit.

I purpose despatching shortly a man for the purpose of ascertaining its present state.

11. As the subject of the lordship of these forty-three villages on the Nessoo rivulet has been now, I am informed, taken up by the Inam Commission, it is probable that the question may soon be settled.

12. Any further remarks regarding the Dang, the Dang Rajas, and the Timber Depôt at Bulsar, had better be reserved to accompany Mr. Fenner's report.

13. Two subjects, however, which belong rather to the general department of the forests than to any particular branch, may fitly claim notice here. Of these the first is

THE SOOLGANA, OR SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE DANG.

14. Mr. Harvey, the late Second Assistant, settled this satisfactorily, after much labour. Subsequently, the Deshmook's rights over the forest within his limits were suspended for a time, pending the result of the inquiry conducted by Major Morris.

15. This forest has lately (I am informed) been released from attachment, so that, unless especial care be taken, we run the risk of a renewal of the depredations which took place previous to 1849.

16. In this view, I think it might in the end have been found a saving measure to have taken the Soolgana country into the circle of our preserved forests, under a commutation payment of about Rs. 300 per annum.

This measure was proposed by me in May 1849 or 1850; but it is one which can be admissible only in the case of the Northern Department having a steady surplus sufficient to cover the extra charge.

ROAD THROUGH THE DANG FROM MOOLERE, BY BABOOLNA GHAUT AND DANG OF GARVEE.

17. This line was recommended by me, in my report of 1849, as opening a direct communication from Berar through the heart of Khandeish to the coast, with the additional advantage of traversing the central part of the Dang, and the further benefit of passing through a country either entirely British or under British control.

As it may happen that recent events have given to this subject some additional importance, I may be pardoned for now reverting to it. I observe that the Military Board, in their letter under date 29th June 1852, state that the Superintendent of Roads and Tanks has given an opinion in favour of a line through the Soolgana country in preference to that recommended by me.

18. I do not know the particular Ghaut to which Captain Graham alludes, but deem it probable that it may be the Rowra Ghaut.

19. To take, however, this line would fulfil but few of the beneficial purposes out of which my proposal arose. It would form a less direct communication with the coast from Berar than the line of the Thull Ghaut, which is not distant from the Rowra Ghaut; and as to facilitating the passage of timber from our Dang it would be of no use whatever.

This can be at once ascertained by reference to the map. On these grounds I beg to adhere to my former proposal.

FOREST OF PENTH HURSOOL.

20. This forms the next in order. Proceeding southward, below the Ghauts, cutting of Teak is now proceeding here for the fourth season, the ripe wood in twenty-eight villages having been girdled by a Karkoon from this department last year.

21. It is anticipated that after the sales of the ensuing season it may be necessary to give the forest a rest for some years, or at least until the Conservator can in person visit the Penth country, which I have not been able to do since 1849.

The actual state of the forest will depend much on the mode in which cultivation, when permitted in certain parts of it, has been managed.

22. If judiciously, then in the course of a few years more we shall again have much wood ripe for cutting; but should the case be otherwise, and the local authorities have for the sake of a small present profit winked at the revival of the former reckless mode of burning away forest for cultivation, then much of our work will remain to be done over again.

23. The Board are aware that in this territory, on account of its peculiar situation and constitution, we still continue the system of receiving the Government share of the wood proceeds, by a levy made at the chowkees on the frontier of the State.

The plan is one not favourable, either to the interests of Government or to the well-being of the forest; but it is submitted to as the only alternative practicable in the circumstances of the case.

NORTHERN TALOOKAS OF TANNA, viz. MAHIM, MAHOLEE, SUNJAN, BASSEIN, KALLIAN, AND BHEWNDY.

24. In several of these Talookas the young forest has now become partly available for thinning out and cutting, while from the older trees a considerable amount of crooks and knees for the Naval Department has been obtained.

Of large, or first class crooks, but very few have been found; but of smaller and boat timbers, the supply has been more plentiful.

25. In the Talooka of Sunjan we have not hitherto begun the cutting of any of the young forest, but during the ensuing season it is my intention to afford the public a supply by direct cutting here.

26. In the Maholee Talooka or Kolwan Dr. Stocks carried into effect the plan which I had proposed in 1851, viz. a trial of the cutting of Teak on the system of fees,—the fee being on each cart Rs. 4 to Rs. 3, according to situation.

27. Notwithstanding, however, the stringent provisions in the agreements, the active supervision of Dr. Stocks himself, and the excellent system of cheque-book permits insisted on by him, we find that the result, though highly profitable *for a season* (the nett return having been about Rs. 11,000), has not been such as to lead me to recommend a renewal of the system this season.

28. In fact, from an examination of the cheque books now in progress, it appears not only that immature wood has been cut down, in a proportion very far exceeding the riper material, but that passes have been made to cover quantities which could, under ordinary circumstances, never have been conveyed by single carts.

29. However, it is perhaps premature that I should now do more than allude to the subject, as proceedings founded on it may hereafter have to be brought to the notice of Government, in case the Collectors agree with me in opinion that the local Amuldars, who had the responsibility of immediately superintending the arrangements, and in whom was vested the appointment of paid Karkoons for the purpose of carrying them out, are seriously culpable.

30. Suffice it to say, that under the same system as was last season followed, the serviceable forest in Kolwan, and its subordinate Mahals of Mokhara and Wareh, would have in a few years been exhausted.

31. Finding, then, that the people cannot, in cutting for themselves, be restrained from using up the most valuable part of the forest, viz. the young wood, I intend this season to confine the cuttings in Kolwan to one or more contracts for cart material, and to have these supervised by a person directly responsible to me. This measure will ensure the expenditure only of the older wood, found towards the base of the hills, while the most crooked timber, likely to be fit for naval purposes, is situated too high, and in places too difficult of access, to allow of its being profitably felled for the fabrication of carts. Of the young wood, I may observe that the supply of it in the Mokhara and Wareh Petas of Maholee Talooka is still large.

32. In the Soobha division of the Talooka it is less plentiful, but still not scarce, insomuch that we can afford to have a pretty extensive annual cutting in one of the Talookas,—Sunjan or Maholee alternately,—while, in the course

of a few years, those of Mahim, Bassein, and Bhewndy will come in for their turn, and thus keep up, in the northern division of the Zilla, a permanent source of supply. At present, in the three latter Talookas, most of the Teak is yet young, so that a cutting cannot be undertaken with safety.

33. In the Talooka of Kallian the Patgaum piece of forest will afford a good field for beginning this year a cutting there; and, in conformity to my usual plan, the material for sale or public supply will be cut in September, while in January and February a trimming of the younger and more hopeful trees will be undertaken.

34. The reason for thus deferring the trimming until January is, that in October, November, and December, labour is not easily obtained, as the peasants are then busy in reaping and storing their grain.

35. Touching the Jowar country, which is surrounded by our Purgunas in this northern division, we have had on several occasions complaints of plunder of the wood in our districts by the people of the Raja, or by the ryots of the British Government acting under his license; but the plan, which I began in 1851, of sending an agent twice a year to examine the state of the boundary of the British villages, having been continued by Dr. Stocks, has exerted considerable influence in lessening the amount of plunder.

36. Still I cannot too strongly second the recommendation (since adopted by Government) made by Dr. Stocks, that Government should oblige the Raja to receive pass-books, and to issue his passes in the same form and manner as is done by us; each pass to cover only one cart.

FOREST IN THE TALOOKAS SOUTH OF KALLIAN, viz. MOORBAR, NUSRAPORE, TULLOJEH, PANWELL, PENN, RAJPOOREE, ALIBAGH, AND RYGHUR.

37. Of these, in Moorbar the quantity of mature wood is small; in Tullojeh there is yet none, but in some villages the promise of the young wood is good.

38. In the Soobha division of Nusrapore the villages containing Teak forest number about twenty-two.

39. In all these Talookas the young trees are very numerous on the middle and lower slopes of the hills; in fact they form the staple of the village forest.

40. It will be of great importance that, in the course of the revenue survey now taking place in these districts, the forest rights of the State should be carefully respected; otherwise it will happen that all the best trees growing in sheltered situations, where there is some deposit of soil from the upper parts of the hills, and which are thus likely to be near to the cultivated land,

will be claimed by the cultivators as being adjacent to their holdings, or because they may choose to push this hill or "wurkus" cultivation into the ground occupied by the trees, and thus a large amount of property may pass from the hands of Government into those of private persons.

41. Experience has shown us that the Native cultivator has yet no appreciation of the prospective value of young timber. In the course of years, possibly by the period of the next survey, say in 1884, the state of the popular mind may be such as to admit of a larger concession than could at present with safety be made. In the Khalapore Mahal of Nusrapore Talooka the quantity of young forest is large, and of promising quality.

42. It keeps to the skirts and sides of the hills which intersect this Mahal, and those which bound it to the north and south.

43. For the last four years we have had profitable cuttings and extensive trimmings at the villages Nigrolee, Kollotta, Wurosee, &c.; and this year I propose to continue them in three other villages, so as to keep up an annual succession, and to ensure the trimming of at least six young trees for one cut down.

Thus, say that in one cutting we provide five thousand rafter sticks for sale: the labour of about fifteen men applied for two months, in January and February, will suffice to trim about thirty thousand trees.

44. In Panwell the Teak villages are fewer; in Penn numerous; and the Teak particularly good in the villages formerly belonging to Angria, and in Tooksaee, Chowna, and Doorset, near the Ghauts.

45. The village of Neephar, in this Talooka, which in 1850 had so nearly been made over to the Dewan of the late Angria, without any mention having at first been made of the Teak forest which it contained, and afterwards an estimate of value (Rs. 130) having been given by the local authorities in 1851-52, a nett return of Rs. 1,061-14-1 was obtained in that year, and of the forest a large portion of the younger wood was trimmed, and left serviceable for future cuttings.

46. At Wursae, Gagoda, Parla, and Koombharlee, situated on the opposite side of the creek, the trees trimmed from 1846 onwards are in a thriving state, and now very many of them will afford the long spars so much required for masts and yards of boats.

47. The state of the general forest on the Manikghur fort hill is much improved since we gave the superintendence thereof to a man formerly a Havildar in Angria's service.

In the Nagotna Mahal of the Penn Talooka the forest villages have their wood now sufficiently ripe to afford a series of cuttings annually. Many boat crooks, also, have been provided from hence.

48. Conservation agreements have been received from the Khotes and other Wutundars in considerable numbers. In fact, of the khotee villages of the Mahal not above ten remain unsecured; twenty-nine have accepted the agreements; but in the khalsa villages we do not encourage the extension of these agreements, as we find in practice that the doing so gives one or more of the Darekurees a sort of supremacy over the forest pieces wherein cultivation is occasionally carried on by others, and that this leads to a host of claims, often conflicting, and always difficult to settle.

49. It is found to be a much preferable plan for khalsa villages to give at the period of cutting a quantity of wood for some public building in the village, or (as was done in the case of Chowna, Tooksaee, and Oomur Khind in 1851-52) to make a money present to the Patels.

50. In Rajpooree and its subordinate Mahals almost every village has now its piece of forest, some of them rather extensive and profitable, as was evidenced by the quantity of wood cut there for public purposes (viz. export to Sind) in 1851-52. In this Talooka, including its subordinate Mahals, Tulleh and Nizampore, about seventy-one khotee villages, containing Teak, have given conservation agreements, while about thirty remain outstanding.

51. On the advent of the survey to these three southern Talookas, the same precautions which I have indicated as being necessary for Tullojeh, Nusrapore, Kallian, Panwell, &c. should, I am respectfully of opinion, be carefully kept in view.

52. In the Talooka of Ryghur the forest is less generally extended than is the case in Rajpooree. In the Soobha division, agreements have been given for the conservation of eighteen villages, and in the subordinate Mahals, Beerwaree and Goregaum, the number of agreements is eighty-four; so that probably not one-fourth of the villages containing Teak has remained unsecured.

53. In the Kondwee Peta a large provision of cut material was made for the public service and for sale.

54. Cuttings may continue here for some years to come, care being taken that the usual proportion of trees to be trimmed annually is kept up. In the Mahal of Beerwaree, also, the forest is annually improving, and most of the villages are secured by agreements.

55. On the whole, the records of Government will, I think, show that since the date of the proclamation of 1851 settlements have gone on favourably; complaints have been very few, and, as Dr. Stocks in his progress report well remarks, the villagers seem now sensible that they get more under our system than on that in force previous to 1851, simply because the material which now forms a valuable property was in former times annually cut away for burning.

56. Another most important consideration is that in many of those villages there remains, or will soon remain, no wood excepting Teak; consequently, for burning on the fields, or for occasional use in the formation of agricultural implements, the inhabitants will be entirely dependent on this wood; hence its thrifty expenditure is a matter of material consequence to the State.

57. In the Colaba forest there has been no extensive cutting during the past season, but for the present year a considerable thinning out of old wood and trimming of the younger trees is projected for Chowra.

A last contract will also be given in some of the adjacent villages of the Rajpooree Talooka.

RUTNAGHERRY COLLECTORATE.

58. The effects of the proclamation of 1851 are now developing themselves here, and as the task of working out its provisons is under the ultimate superintendence of Mr. Coles, we are thus fully warranted in assuming that these will be settled with advantage to all parties concerned.

59. Last season Dr. Stocks visited many villages bordering the northern creeks of the Collectorate, chiefly those of Dabul and Severndroog, and took from sundry of the Khotes (twenty-three in number) conservation agreements for the little forest which they have.

60. Much more yet remains to be done, viz. in the country adjoining the Jyghur creek, the back villages extending from Sungumeshwur south as far as Rajapoor. Teak in this back belt or zone of land is found only in some of the villages, while in the laterite country towards the coast there is little or none.

61. To confirm to those parties who have planted trees on their own grounds between 1822 and 1851; to investigate the claims put forward by others to trees growing on mountain land; and in all possible cases to arrive at a decision which shall not be liable to disturbance hereafter, requires a most careful inquiry, begun from the point where Dr. Stocks left off last season.

For the reason stated in a former paragraph, viz. that we have the great advantage of the presence of Mr. Coles in the Collectorate, I think it of importance that the inquiry should again be entered on as soon as possible.

62. It was this consideration which led to my making the application No. 381, of 12th July last, to Government, for the temporary detachment of the Second Assistant from the Northern Department, the said officer to act on direct responsibility to me, and under the superintendence of the Collector.

SAWUNT WAREE JUNGLES.

63. Regarding these forests, I have no recent information,—none in fact posterior to January 1850, when I visited the Waree Districts. The establishment there is directly under the political authority, and makes no report to this department.

64. As up to 1850 I had frequent communication with Major Jacob, the late Political Superintendent, regarding the origination of the system of fees on the forest produce there, and indeed regarding conservation of the forest there generally, I deem it of consequence that I should be well informed as to how the measures which we jointly originated have succeeded.

65. In the possible case of my visiting Canara and Malabar this season, I have but faint hopes that time will suffice for my taking the Waree province on my return. Under these circumstances, perhaps Government would not object to my employing a special Karkoon for four months, at a salary of Rs. 20 per mensem, to collect for me the necessary information, obtainable by visiting the different forest villages in the Waree State.

FOREST OF SOONDA AND NORTH CANARA.

66. The arrangements proposed by me for the better working of these forests in 1851 having now been sanctioned by the Supreme Government, Mr. Poulton entered on 1st April last on his duties as Assistant to the Collector of Mangalore, for the superintendence of the upper and lower forests, and the provision of supplies therefrom.

67. This measure gives to the Bombay Conservator as much control as may be necessary for the well-being of the forests there, inasmuch as, having the Assistant (a Bombay officer) partly under his direct control, he has it in his power at all times to bring to the notice of the Collector of Mangalore any error which may appear to him to occur in the mode of granting permits for wood in the selection of localities for koomree or hill cultivation, &c.

68. Since my first visit to these forests in January 1844, I have uniformly found that the authorities were most ready to act on any suggestions which I offered, and having now the further guarantee of an officer approved of by the Bombay Conservator, holding the joint appointment for Canara and Malabar, these forests will probably show year by year increased signs of improvement.

69. Mr. Poulton has made a profitable return to the State from wood supplied to public departments from these forests (vide Appendix, Table No. 22, exhibiting that of one season for the partial supply of one province, viz.

Sind), and also in the article of broken and burned logs, sale of which has been going on since 1846, with a considerable nett profit annually.

70. Adverting to the fact that Mr. Poulton has conducted what remains of the duties of the Malabar Agency, since the departure of Captain Williams in 1850, on a very small salary, and that he did not enter on the addition to his appointment until April 1853, though practically he had been conducting the duties for a considerable time before that, I beg respectfully to offer a suggestion that some reward might be given to him out of the profits which he has raised out of a material (the broken and burned wood) which must otherwise have been lost to the State.

Mr. Poulton reports that, in consequence of the impaired state of his health, it is probable he may have to apply for sick leave to the Neilgherries for a limited period.

71. On this account, as also because it is desirable that the transactions which have taken place in Malabar subsequent to the departure of Captain Williams should be looked at on the spot by an immediate Agent of Government, I suggested to the Military Board the advisability of my going to Malabar (lately sanctioned) in the ensuing season, the more especially as I could by doing so, possibly be in a position for ascertaining as to how far we can look for a supply of "superior" and first class timber from the Anamalla forests, in the event of a sudden demand arising.

72. These, and many other details connected with the winding up of the late agency, could probably in this manner be more satisfactorily determined than could be the case by a lengthened correspondence.

73. Mr. Poulton in a late letter informed me that he was about to proceed to the upper forest (Soonda), to make a provision of Teakwood for the Engineer and other public departments of our Southern Provinces,—Belgaum, Dharwar, &c. I hope to be able to arrange so that in future he should endeavour to secure a part of this provision from the southern jungles of the Belgaum Collectorate, which are conterminous to those of Soonda from the Sidh Hill, north of Jugglepeith to the eastward by Moodkee, &c. to the border of the Misreekota Talooka of Dharwar.

SANDALWOOD PLANTATIONS IN THE DHARWAR COLLECTORATE.

74. Of these, the last return made was in November 1852, at which time the number of trees had increased by 10,291 over the number reported in January 1850.

75. This increase tends to show that when the proposed period for cutting,

viz. February 1858 (vide correspondence of 1846), shall arrive, there will remain a sufficient stock of young wood ready to supply the place of that cut down.

Thus, in 1852 the whole number of trees being 155,978, of these are old 41,306, against 37,843 old reported in 1850; that is, in the interval of the two reports 3,463 trees had passed into the scale of old or ripe wood, being an increase of 1,731 per annum to this class. At a similar rate of annual increase, we may expect that about 50,000 will be ready for the axe in 1858.

76. As long as the local authorities continue to take an interest in this branch of industry, so long will it be found a resource naturally increasing, without any expense to the Government; and, moreover, this continued exhibition of interest on the part of the public officers tends to create on the part of the ryots themselves a feeling favourable to the increase of the trees in their own lands.

77. I believe it will be of advantage that the Conservator, so soon as he can spare part of a season, should devote it to the inspection of these plantations. I have in former reports alluded to the fact that the Sandalwood appears to grow freely without any cultivation in all parts of the Deccan.

There are about five hundred trees in the koorun of Kopra, near Poona, and a good many in the upper plantations of the Gor valley, north of Poona; also near Sattara.

FOREST IN THE BEDEE TALOOKA OF THE BELGAUM COLLECTORATE.

78. This forest has not been visited by the Conservator since 1848, but an intelligent subordinate of the department has been continuously stationed here. He has the assistance of several Shetsundees of the Collector's department, and makes his reports monthly to the Conservator.

79. From these, as well as from what I have gleaned from other quarters, there is reason to believe that the forest is in a good state of preservation, and that the advantageous arrangements regarding koomree or dulleran cultivation, begun by Mr. Reeves, have been continued in their full integrity by his successor, Mr. Inverarity.

FORESTS OF THE SATTARA STATE.

80. Next come the forests of Sattara. In this country there is, as I have in former reports noted, very little forest of any kind, so that the creation of it is a work involving longer time and greater expenditure than is the case in most of our older districts.

81. Although by Article III. of the Treaty made with the first Raja in 1819 Government reserved to itself the sovereign right to all building timber growing on the face of the Ghauts within the Sattara limits, the western or Ghaut border of this territory is more denuded even of bushes than is the case in our own districts.

82. However, from the returns of last year, it appears that the preserves can, from the regulated sale of their contents, be made to pay about ninety per cent. towards the expenses of conservation. (Vide Appendix, No. 13.)

As the wages of the Peon maintained for keeping entire the forest at Malcolmpeit is a charge unconnected with that of the general forest ground of the State, the amount paid on his account will be found deducted in the Appendix.

FOREST OF KEKVEE, BOONGOWLEE, DUNKOWREE, AND MUNDHUR.

83. The thinning out of the older and more crooked wood in this preserve has now been going on for four years, and it seems likely to be four years more before the thinning is completed, and the younger trees left in a hopeful and growing state.

84. The annual profits from the measure considerably exceed what I had anticipated (vide forest report for 1848, paragraphs 3 to 7), while many thousands of trees have been trimmed and put into a favourable condition for future growth.

85. Depredations in this forest have been fewer, and, on the whole, we may look forward to its continuance as a very useful source of supply, so soon as this now secluded valley shall have been opened in the direction of Poona and Sattara.

86. From the accounts of the sales made for the last few years, it will be seen that I did not require to put in practice the plan mentioned in my report for 1848, viz. the storing up of crooked wood, to be issued by the State in lieu of cash contributions for the construction of chowrees, &c. (Vide report of 1848, paragraph 7.) In fact, the normal demands of the wood market have hitherto sufficed to rid us of all the material, crooked as well as straight.

REPLY TO THE QUESTIONS OF THE MILITARY BOARD REGARDING KEKVEE AND MAHABLESHWUR.

87. As bearing on this subject, I embrace this opportunity of stating my

views on the query proposed in letter of the Board No. 9286 of 1853, under date 4th instant, on the propriety of finding a market for the Kekvee timber by floating it down the Neera river towards Sholapore. From what I have stated in last paragraph, it will appear that this measure is not immediately required, but it is one to be kept in view. At the same time, we found in practice in 1851-52 that the expenses of transport of the wood from the forest to the river (about five miles) were considerable, and that the demand for the wood landed at Neera bridge was not brisk.

88. Another of the questions mooted in paragraph 10 of the same letter related to "the capabilities of the hill-sides in the neighbourhood of Mahableshwur for growing Teak, and the proposal to scatter seed thereon."

I can fully confirm what Dr. Stocks states as to the favourable climate and local aptitude of this situation for the scattering of Teak seeds, and the arrangement shall not be lost sight of in the season 1854-55.

To return to the forest near Kekvee.

89. The question of the property in the Teak of the kooruns Alundee, Sungumnair, &c. having now been taken up by the Inam Commission, will, it is to be hoped, now be soon disposed of, the more especially as, in addition to the strong proofs which I was able to bring forward from the records of the Peshwa's Duftur in 1848, some further written evidence has lately been found, the papers whereof are now under examination.

PLANTATIONS IN THE SINGHUR AND ADJACENT SLOPES AND VALLEYS.

90. In the first of these thinning has now been annually carried on since December 1843, and there yet remains another year of the work.

91. Viewing the time taken to thin the number of labourers employed, and the amount of young wood trimmed by each in the course of a day, I do not think that the trees in this preserve can be fewer than four hundred thousand, and of these we may safely affirm that one-fourth are of good quality, at least for Deccan wood.

92. The villages on the other side of the valley, and in the vicinity of Donja, such as Aglumb, Awee, Nandosee, &c. have all been secured for conservation on the share principle. Complaints of plunder in these have been few, and the progress of the wood is satisfactory.

BABOOL PLANTATIONS OF BHEEMTHUREE.

93. Regarding these, it may suffice that I request attention to the remarks made by Dr. Stocks in his progress report of June 1st, as his experience in the

more extensive Babool forests or shikargahs of Sind renders his opinion of much value.

94. The returns for the year 1852-53, as given in detail in Table No. 8, show a clear profit, after deducting the annual charge for foresters, of Rs. 548-8-11.

I would respectfully invite attention to two of the items in the table, viz. the sales of thorns and Babool pods to shepherds, for the purpose of feeding sheep.

In the year previous to our taking charge of this branch of the koorun returns, viz. in 1848, the whole produce thereof was under Rs. 40 per annum.

95. Last season the amount was Rs. 242-3-0, notwithstanding that the koorun of Rahoo, which appears in the public accounts for 1849-50, has since then passed into private hands. It is true that since 1847 the extent of the Babool preserves under this department has been nearly doubled, by the addition of Kowree, Kolowree, Tullegaum, &c.; but the pod returns during the same period have more than quintupled. This shows that the trees have not been diminished in number by the annual thinning operation, and also that the mode which we follow in selling the pod produce is more conducive to the public interests than the former plan of sales through the agency of the Komavisdar's establishment.

96. I have lately taken measures for fulfilling the intention of Government as to extending these preserves to the side of the river Bheema, under the Collectorate of Ahmednuggur, by sending a Karkoon to mark off the boundaries of the land disputed between the villages of Allegaum, Oorulgaum, and Nagurgaum.

97. Before taking leave of this subject, I should observe that attempted encroachments on the tree part of the kooruns, and claims to the trees growing therein, have been of late rather frequently made by parties cultivating the river land immediately adjoining; and in some instances the local authorities have been rather disposed to sanction these encroachments, as warranted by Rules X. and XI. of the Joint Report of the Committee of Survey, without adverting to the fact that the amended or Supplementary Rule, published by Government under date 23rd May 1851, is intended to neutralise the injurious effect which the unrestricted application of the rules in question must have had on most of our forest preserves.

98. I feel sanguine, however, that the correspondence now on foot with the Collectors of Poona and Ahmednuggur regarding this important point will end in preserving the interests of the Government, without trenching on the property of the people.

CHAS KUMAN, GEEROWLEE, GORNEHR, AND OTHER TEAK PRESERVES IN THE NORTHERN DIVISION OF THE POONA COLLECTORATE.

99. Regarding these, I need not occupy the attention of the Government, as the details given in the progress report of Dr. Stocks, under date 1st June, leave nothing to be added. I will only observe that a part of the plantations on the Mool river (Mahal of Brahminwara), which in 1850-51 (report, paragraph 3) I stated "that without being sanguine as to the proceeds of thinning paying the charges thereof, I meant to try," having been thinned in 1851, have yielded a profit of Rs. 79-9-0 over the charges.

About 15,000 trees were trimmed in these preserves in 1851.

TEAK FOREST OF THE KOWNAEE AND ANKOLA TALOOKAS, OF WESTERN AHMEDNUGGUR COLLECTORATE.

100. This has only begun to be of such consequence as to be worth preserving within the last four years.

101. In Ankola Talooka it now extends over mountain lands in thirty-two villages, and in Kownaee over forty villages, including those of the Mahal of Trimbuk. I have therefore entertained from the contingent allowance a keeper for each of these Talookas, an arrangement in force since 1851.

102. Partly owing to this measure, we now have, in several of the valleys of the higher mountains which skirt the plain traversed by the Dharna river, wood in a state of maturity sufficient to afford a cutting which will probably more than cover the expense of trimming the younger trees.

103. In the Talooka of Dindoree, and Mahal of Wunn, the young forest (confined to hilly and uncultivated places) extends over one hundred and four villages. For this also a separate keeper has been entertained since 1851. In the course of a few years it will afford a profitable cutting.

104. The last place in this line of the Deccan preserves and depôts to be noticed is the

CHOWSALEH WOOD DEPOT, IN MAHAL WUNN.

There is one of the subjects which the Military Board in their letter No. 9286, of 4th instant, have requested me to offer an opinion on—its "disadvantageous position, and the overstock of timber collected there."

105. The position of this depôt could not be altered without considerable expense necessary for conveying the wood further down the country. I would therefore decline to recommend that any expense be incurred in the way of

actual outlay, and think it would be preferable to have the timber conveyed to the vicinity of Sungumnair by persons agreeing to accept a share of the same as remuneration for their expenses.

106. In this way I calculate, that of the 2,740 logs now at the depôt we should, by sacrificing one-half as remuneration, have the remaining 1,370 brought to Sungumnair, or probably considerably nearer to Poona. I would respectfully request the sanction of the Board and Government to enter on an arrangement of this kind.

107. Meantime, I may state that, under ordinary circumstances, the situation of the depôt, placed as it is just where cart-carriage from the eastern outlet of the forests begins, would not be found so disadvantageous; but the artificial and temporary glut of the market, by the release of the timber attached by Major Morris in 1849 and 1850, has much checked any demand for our stored material.

108. I cannot accompany this report by a full account of expenditure and returns at the depôt, because a large balance due by the Civil Engineer at Malligaum, for timber selected by his department in 1852, still remains unadjusted.

109. I may state, however, in a general way, that up to the present date the amount expended in bringing timber from the forest has been Rs. 5,536-1-3. This, by the way, includes also the charges for karkooning, and other contingencies.

That the sales up to same date, including the estimated value of the timber finally taken by the Khandeish Engineer, and comprising also some realisations from unclaimed timber sold by auction, have amounted to Rs. 2,896, more or less, leaving a balance to the debit accounts of the depôt amounting to Rs. 2,640, more or less. The effects on hand as a set off against this balance are logs 2,740, which, at the very moderate valuation of Rs. 2 for each, will amount to Rs. 5,480. A full numeral account shall be rendered immediately on the realisation of the Engineer's balance above mentioned.

MAWUL, OR WESTERN DISTRICT OF BAGLAN, IN KHANDEISH.

110. This consists of a series of valleys, running from west to east, where they merge in the open country.

111. The hills which divide these several valleys from each other have a very fair supply of young Teak and Seesoo timber.

112. To preserve this on the same plan as is followed in the Mawul districts of Poona and Ahmednuggur appears to be easy, as the population is mostly of quiet, industrious habits, and we have here not at all the same

intricacy of tenure and admixture of territory which prevail in the country about and in the Satpoora Hills.

113. That the wood of these valleys should be so preserved appears the more necessary, seeing that from the report of the former First Assistant Collector, and the opinions expressed by the different revenue authorities (vide correspondence forwarded to me for opinion with resolution of Government No. 5,291, under date 12th May 1851), there appear to be strong grounds for the opinion that, consequent on the increasingly denuded state of the hills in the Baglan Talooka, the water supply of the numerous streams which traverse it had materially diminished. I have accordingly addressed Mr. Mansfield, the Collector, lately on this subject, and when the arrangements shall have been concluded, I can arrange for keeping up a forester permanently in that part of the province.

FOREST IN THE SATPOORA RANGE OF HILLS.

114. Regarding the forests here, some correspondence took place in 1850, but the tract over which it extends lies so much in a corner as regards the line of my other duties, that I have not yet been able to make the local inspection necessary previous to attempting any arrangement.

115. I have now gone over nearly all pieces of country embraced in our forest arrangements, and it only remains for me to notice the general results of the operations of the season, and to indicate the different accounts, tables, &c. to be referred to as accompanying this statement, and to conclude by offering a very few remarks on the jungle fee collections, commenced in October 1851, and now annually made a part of the revenue of the State.

116. With respect to the returns realised from Teak forest,—Appendix, Tables No. 1 to No. 19 exhibit the expenditure and receipts from the several forests where cutting has taken place, also the returns from stolen and recovered wood and fines (vide No. 17).

117. The total return from the Teak exported from Kolwan Talooka under the fee system will be found as one of the items in the summary (No. 20).

118. It has not been possible to exhibit the detail of the fees collected, as in order to do this we must have given the contents of all the passes or permits; suffice it to say that the nett proceeds from these fees for the year amount to Rs. 11,888-15-5. For the reasons given in paragraph 28, it will be seen that I do not consider this item as one to which we could safely look forward to realising for another season, and that I deem it preferable to have a smaller annual return, with the certainty of the forest remaining permanently productive.

119. Appendix No. 21 exhibits the gross return, the expenditure, and the nett return from the different Teak and Babool forests in which operations have been carried on during the past season. From this it will be perceived that the total of nett return from Teak and Babool is Rs. 35,979-12-2.

120. Appendix No. 22 contains a summary of the drafts from sanction for 1852-53, from which it will be seen that these have amounted to the sum of Rs. 3,000, more or less.

121. The balance shall be duly returned to the General Treasury immediately on the receipt by me of notice that the accounts now rendered have been passed by the Board.

I should here observe that the summary of nett returns (No. 20) ought to be considered a provisional one, inasmuch as it cannot be termed an absolute return until the bill, whereof No. 18 is a copy, and which was forwarded to the Board on the 16th instant, shall have been returned passed. Taking, however, the summary in its present state, it is subject to the following deductions :—

First, for the amount of annual expenditure incurred in office establishment, peons, and foresters kept up for the purpose of watching the Teak and Jambool preserves.

The present amount of contingent allowance monthly drawn under this head is.....	Rs. 264 8 0	
Being per annum.....		Rs. 3,174 0 0
Add to this the annual charge on account of foresters for Babool kooruns		420 0 0
Total....		Rs. 3,594 0 0

This sum deducted from the total of nett return leaves a balance of Rs. 32,385-12-2.

122. Appendix No. 21 exhibits the gross return from fees on jungle-wood, the expenses of collection, and the nett return (Rs. 29,805-8-6). Note that this return extends only to the end of April, the term of the official year. The collections made in May 1853 will appear in the report for 1853-54.

123. It is also to be observed that this return does not include the realisations from the billet farm of the South Konkun, as this department has no management thereof, nor knowledge of the amount realised thereby.

124. It includes, however, the realisations on account of forest in the Dharwar reserves, as the Collector has estimated these to amount to one-third of the whole sum, which is Rs. 3,812.

125. This third appears in our return. Thus the total of realisations on ac-

count of Teak and other forest for 1852-53 reaches the sum of Rs. 62,194-4-8. From this total remains to be deducted the pay and allowances of the Conservator.

126. It is to be noticed that the above sums have nothing whatever to do with any charges or profits of the Northern or Southern Agencies, which are also under the Conservator, and ought, therefore, to bear a portion of the sum which he costs to the State.

127. In Table No. 23 of Appendix I have given a return, furnished from the Southern Agency, of the profit derived on a transaction embracing 348 logs of Teak. The cost of these is compared with that of a further quantity which had to be purchased from the Cochin Government, and as the latter allows a deduction of ten per cent. on purchases, the same deduction has been made from the forest price of these logs from Soonda. The result shows a gain to the State in this small transaction of Rs. 3,925-4-3, and tends to show the soundness of the policy of depending on our own forests for supplies, in preference to going into the market to procure them.

JUNGLE FEE LEVY.

128. With regard to the levy of jungle fees, I have the pleasure of stating, that since the settlement made in December 1851 and January 1852, the system appears to work smoothly and well. The number of petitions, letters of reference, &c. is not a fifth of what it was in 1851-52.

129. The increase in the amount of jungle fees over that realised in 1851-52 has been about Rs. 10,000, and under the system of passes for Jowar timber lately sanctioned by Government, the prospective realisations promise to be still more considerable. I would strongly advocate the extension of the same system of passes to the territory of the Punt Suchew, but on this head I have addressed the Government in a separate letter, as at the present stage of the season it is an object to save time.

EXTENSION OF THE JUNGLE FEE SYSTEM TO CERTAIN PARTS OF THE POONA AND AHMEDNUGGUR COLLECTORATES PROPOSED.

130. Fortified by the experience we have now gained in the working of the system of jungle fees, and adverting to the fact that these are now levied with quietness and efficiency in the Collectorates of Tanna, Dharwar, and Belgaum, the time appears to have arrived for proposing their extension to the western parts of the Collectorates of Ahmednuggur and Poona.

131. I am not at present informed as to the mode pursued in disposing of the jungles near the Ghauts in the Ahmednuggur Collectorate, but I have written to obtain the necessary information.

132. With respect to the Poona Zilla, the practice (if I mistake not) is to sell by contract pieces of jungle forest intended to be felled.

133. From what I have seen of this place, I am of opinion that owing to various causes the full benefit derivable from this piece of Ghaut jungle is not thus realised to the State, while the effect of the local monopoly (for such it in fact is) entails more hardship on the poorer classes than a regulated system of fees would do, inasmuch as that a piece of forest having been once purchased, the purchaser takes care to exclude the local inhabitants from participation in the wood product, be it even required for their domestic purposes; whereas under our system of fees, local requirements both as to building and agricultural timber, as also firewood, are allowed free of cost.

134. In this view, and seeing that I have received numerous petitions from dealers in wood, praying that in the Ghaut districts cutting or fee permits be allowed, as is the case in the Konkun, I have addressed the Collector of Poona, suggesting the introduction of the system for his western pieces of forest.

135. In the present Table No. 20 will be observed one item, viz. fee collected by the Mawul Komavisdar.

This arose out of the case of a party who was cutting wood, partly in the Nusrapore Talooka of Tanna, and partly in the forest above the Ghaut, so that to prevent fraud the fee was levied in the Mawul Talooka.

136. I respectfully request the orders of Government respecting the extension of the system to the western parts of Ahmednuggur and Poona.

137. It is not intended that this proposal should be made at all applicable to the eastern Babool preserves in the Bheema and Moota Moola rivers, because these are, as respects their expenditure, wholly under State management, and the proceeds being periodically sold for the benefit of Government, ought to reach Poona free from any other impost.

138. I also take this opportunity of stating my belief that there may now exist less objection than was made in 1851 (vide letter of Government, 5th September 1851, No. 8831) to the cautious introduction of timber fees into the Surat Collectorate, seeing that by means of the signed permits furnished to the Dhurumpore Raja, &c. we could prevent much of the fraud which must otherwise prevail.

139. It is also worthy of consideration, that as most of the wood exported from Bulsar and the northern ports finds its way to foreign territory, we lose, without benefitting our own ryots, a considerable amount annually.

OPERATIONS PROPOSED FOR THE ENSUING SEASON.

140. Regarding the work proposed for the season now current, I may state that as our growing Teak forest matures, it becomes every year more and more our duty to give the people the benefit of a supply (on easy terms) for their domestic purposes, and at the fair market rate for export; and that the source of this supply should be spread over as wide a tract of country as possible.

141. Hence it is my purpose, in the present season, to have a regulated cutting and trimming in about twenty-two forests, possibly indeed in twenty-four.

142. I have in former reports alluded to the difficulty of obtaining hands sufficiently trained to undertake the management of local operations, as the circle of these annually widens; but I feel happy in being able to report that the number of trained foresters is now considerably increased, and that the useful modicum of Native education furnished by the village schools which have, by the liberality of Government, been established in this vicinity, has enabled me to pick out a good many intelligent Muratha lads, whom I find it advantageous to send to the forest for writing and other duties, in preference to confining myself to the staple "*literati*" of the country for the performance of the former of these.

ALEXANDER GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

Hewra, 22nd August 1853.

APPENDIX.

Dr: No. 1. Singhur Forest. Cr.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
1852							
September. 50 labourers, at Rs. 3-4-0 per month, deducting broken periods	160	15	6	Sold rafters of sorts 2,621, at from Rs. 27 to Rs. 22 per 100	619	8	0
October. Ditto ditto ditto	157	5	4	Small ditto, Kaharias, 1,671, at from Rs. 15 to Rs. 13 per 100	237	5	11
November. Ditto, 40 for 18 days, deducting ditto	74	13	6	Posts, Bhals, &c.	201	8	6
Petty expenses, as stationery, &c.	7	14	9	Retail and auction sales	135	6	10
Karkoon's wages from 19th August to end of May, at Rs. 8 per month	75	5	8	Firewood sold by auction	263	9	0
Total.... Rs.	476	6	11	Total.... Rs.	1,457	6	3

Dr. No. 2. Kursoondee and Nemar, Tanna Zilla. Cr.

Expenses.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
1852							
September. 49 men, at Rs. 3 per month, deducting broken period	116	5	0	Sold 5,894 rafters, at prices varying from Rs. 30 to Rs. 23-8-0 per 100	1,417	9	6
Ditto. 27 ditto ditto ditto	25	1	6	Remaining material in detail	49	4	0
Petty expenses	5	13	3				
Karkoon's pay from 19th August 1852 to end of February 1853, at Rs. 6 per month	38	8	3				
Ditto for March, April, and May	18	0	0				
Total.... Rs.	203	12	0	Total.... Rs.	1,466	13	6

Dr. No. 3. Khandus, Zilla Tanna. Cr.

Expenses.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
1852							
September. 35 labourers, at Rs. 3-8-0 per month, deducting broken periods	52	8	1	Rafters, 2,657, sold by auction.....	464	15	7
Petty expenses	3	7	9				
Pay from 27th August to end of April to Karkoon, at Rs. 5 per month	40	10	4				
Total.... Rs.	96	11	0	Total.... Rs.	464	15	7

Dr. No. 4. Talookas Maholee and Kolwan. Cr.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Contract for cutting and trimming 1,450 rafters, at Rs. 3 per 100.....	43	8	0	1,890 rafters sent to Sind, at Rs. 30 per 100	567	0	0
1,303 small ditto, at Rs. 2 per 100.....	26	1	0	225 do. to Dockyard, at Rs. 30 per 100....	67	8	0
Carriage of 2,115 rafters to the coast, at Rs. 9 per 100.	181	4	6	637 of remaining rafters sold at Agaee by auction, at Rs. 17-11-4 per 100.....	112	8	0
Collecting and selecting rafters at Agaee and Bhewndy.	3	6	0	3,211 sold at Kussara, at Rs. 9 per 100	289	10	9
Petty supplies	1	4	3				
Appa Sewram, Karkoon, from 20th August to 1st May.	50	2	1				
Total.... Rs.	305	9	10	Total.... Rs.	1,036	10	9

Dr. No. 5. Sowna, Talooka Panwell. Cr.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
1852							
August. Labourers at Rs. 3 per mensem	60	3	11	Sold 3,009 rafters, at Rs. 25 per 100	752	4	0
November. Ditto at ditto	11	4	0	500 do. at Rs. 15 per 100	75	0	0
Carriage of 500 rafters from Koombharlee to Penn..	11	4	0	Old stock and refuse	69	0	0
Writer, by contract for season	15	0	0				
Petty expenses	2	13	10				
Muccadum's pay, 1st August 1852 to 31st July 1853.	72	0	0				
Total.... Rs.	172	9	9	Total.... Rs.	896	4	0

No. 6. Wawa and Shenwee, Talooka Rajpooree.

Dr. *Account of Cuttings and Cart Sales*, 1852-53. Cr.

Expenditure.		Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.		Rs.	a.	p.
Shenwee..	Expenses of cutting 315 rafters, at Rs. 3-12-0 per 100	8	10	7	4,808	rafters sold, at Rs. 15 per 100.....	736	3	3
	1,220 ditto, at Rs. 1-14-0 per 100	22	14	0	12	trunks at Rs. 1 each.....	12	0	0
	2,143 ditto, at Rs. 1- 8-0 ditto	32	2	3	196½	cart materials	196	4	0
Wawa ..	487 ditto, at Rs. 1-14-0 ditto	9	2	1		Refuse sold	77	4	0
	713 ditto, at Rs. 1- 8-0 ditto	10	11	0					
Carried forward.... Rs.		83	7	11	Carried forward.... Rs.		1,021	11	3

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	83	7	11	Brought forward.... Rs.	1,021	11	3
Expenses of trimming for broken periods in December 1852	8	14	0				
Ditto ditto January 1853	11	13	6				
Ditto ditto February	37	14	1				
Petty expenses	1	6	9				
Pay of Karkoon, from August 15th to end of May..	58	0	0				
Rs.	201	8	3				
Add Khote's share of produce, minus expenses' share	273	6	4				
Total of expenditure and pay.... Rs.	474	14	7	Total.... Rs.	1,021	11	3

No. 7.—GORNEHR, ZILLA POONA.

DR. *Cuttings in* 1851-52. CR.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Amount of expense of cuttings executed by contract.	97	4	3	Sales, auction, last year, wood at Amoondee	12	0	0
Petty expenses	1	0	0	Detail sales at Goreh, &c.	68	11	2
Payment to foresters their one-fifth share, and Rs. 12 the Decembah Patel's one-third share	99	10	1	Ditto ditto	439	11	8
				Material sold at Sal	83	11	2
				Ditto at Decembah	48	0	0
To Conservator's contingent, the remaining one-fifth share of Goreh, &c.	87	10	1	Ditto at Gerowlee	135	0	0
				Rs.	787	2	0
				Deduct expenses of cutting and sundry shares, as above	285	8	5
Total.... Rs.	285	8	5	Nett profit to Government.... Rs.	501	9	7

Dr. No. 8. Bheemthuree Babool Kooruns, 1852-53. Cr.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.
Tek Khangaum.			
11 men in October, at Rs. 3 per month, deducting broken periods	17	9	4
November, 17 men, deducting broken periods	44	14	5
Hingungaum.			
December, 19 labourers, deducting broken periods	44	3	7
1853, January. 24 ditto ditto ditto	55	1	0
1853, February. 22 ditto ditto ditto	52	9	8
Khamgaum.			
1853, March. 10 men, deducting broken periods	19	3	2
Pay for damage done to grass last year	10	0	0
Pay of writer from 19th August to end of May 1853.	47	1	7
Petty charges, as paper, &c.	5	0	6
Carried forward.... Rs.	295	11	3

Receipts.				Rs.	a.	p.
Talooka of Bheemthuree,—						
Khangaum Boodrook, firewood	Rs.	45	1 7			
Walkee		0	1 0			
Hingungaum		551	12 7			
Khangaum Tek		299	4 0			
Khangaum		20	11 0			
				916	14	2
Kurees sold,—						
Khamgaum Boodrook	Rs.	9	0 0			
Hingungaum		20	0 0			
				29	0	0
Dry wood sold,—						
Peepulgaum	Rs.	4	14 0			
Khangaum		30	0 0			
				34	14	0
Thorns sold to Dungurs,—						
Koregaum Mool	Rs.	0	6 0			
Kolowree		4	0 0			
				4	6	0
Babool Pods,—						
Peepulgaum	Rs.	35	4 0			
Khangaum Boodrook		10	8 0			
Walkee		6	14 0			
Bewree		1	14 0			
Bolae		1	10 0			
Hingungaum		4	0 0			
Khangaum Tek		13	0 0			
Carried forward....	Rs.	73	2 0	985	2	2

Expenditure.				Receipts.					
	Rs.	a.	p.					Rs.	a. p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	295	11	3	Brought forward.... Rs.	73	2	0	985	2 2
				Koregaum Mool	5	0	0		
				Kolowree.....	18	0	0		
				Khangaum Boodrook	65	0	0		
				Dongurgaum	6	4	0		
				Phoolgaum	1	4	0		
				Khangaum	5	0	0		
				Koregaum Bewar	3	3	0		
								176	13 0
				Pabul Talooka,—					
				Tullegaum Dumdera ..... Rs.	19	8	0		
				Waroo.....	0	12	0		
				Taklee	3	0	0		
				Aptee.....	3	8	0		
								26	12 0
				Havailee Talooka,—					
				Kowree, firewood ..... Rs.	4	0	0		
				Manjuree Boodrook, firewood ..	5	0	0		
				Manjuree Khoord, ditto ..	9	0	0		
								18	0 0
				Dried trees sold,—					
				Kowree	17	5	0		
				Manjuree Boodrook	4	0	0		
				Manjuree Khoord	2	0	0		
								23	5 0
				Thorns sold,—					
				Kowree	3	0	0		
				Manjuree Boodrook	2	0	0		
				Manjuree Khoord	1	0	0		
								6	0 0

				Pods of Babool,—				
				Kowree	19	12	0	
				Manjuree Boodrook	6	0	0	
				Manjuree Khoord	2	8	0	
								28 4 0
Total.... Rs.	295	11	3	Total.... Rs.				1,264 4 2

No. 9. KEKVEE FOREST, ZILLA POONA.

DR. *Account of Cuttings and Thinnings in* 1852-53. CR.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
1852, September. 61 men, at Rs. 3-8-0 per month, deducting broken periods ..	157	1	4	Sales of wood remaining from last year	78	5	3
October. 47 men, ditto ditto.....	150	5	6	Ditto ditto outstandings recovered ..	246	0	0
November and December, 52 ditto.....	191	6	10	Total sales of this year's materials to this date, for ready cash	2,047	8	3
Dewusthan and paper	4	12	9	Ditto ditto outstanding.....	272	11	0
Peon from 15th July to end of December	33	0	0				
Karkoon's pay from 21st August 1852 to end of May 1853	56	2	1				
Total.... Rs.	592	8	6	Total.... Rs.	2,644	8	6

No. 10. Nagotna Forest, Wurup, Jumbooseer, &c.

Dr. *Account of Cuttings for* 1852-53. Cr.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Labour, 126 men for one month, deducting broken periods	67	7	8	5 large boat timbers, at Rs. 30 per corge	7	8	0
Dewusthan	0	5	0	203 small ditto, at Rs. 11 do.	111	10	4
Freight of crooks to Bombay	10	0	0	Rafters 4,208, at Rs. 25 per 100	1,052	0	0
Pay of Jemedar, four months, at Rs. 15 per month.	60	0	0	Firewood refuse	11	2	0
Due for shares of Khotes, one-third in each village.	339	1	0				
Total.... Rs.	476	13	8	Total.... Rs.	1,182	4	4

No. 11. Kassimeera, Salsette, Tanna, 1852-53.

Dr. Cr.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
18 men in September, at Rs. 4 per month, deducting broken periods	58	6	9	1,130 1st class Rafters sold, at Rs. 53 per 100 ..	621	8	0
19 men in October, at ditto ditto	43	11	10	444 medium ditto, at Rs. 16-8-0	73	4	2
1853, February. 5 men one day	0	10	7	145 short Beams, at Rs. 51 per 100	73	15	2
Petty charges	3	0	2	27 long Rafters for boat yards, at Rs. 300 per 100	81	0	0
Writer and Muccadum's pay from 19th August to end of February, at Rs. 6 per mensem	38	8	3	57 Crooks, at Rs. 20 per 100	11	6	4
				206 Oodas and pieces, at Rs. 4 per 100	9	14	8
				1826 Sahukas	73	0	7
				63 Khambs, at Rs. 75 per 100	47	4	0
				Refuse	10	12	0
Total.... Rs.	144	5	7	Gross return.... Rs.	1,002	0	11

DR. No. 12. VEER, TALOOKA RYGHUR, ZILLA TANNA. CR.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
1852,							
September. 25 labourers, at Rs. 3-4-0, deducting broken periods	40	12	0	1,716 rafters sent to Bombay, sold for Rs. 622-8-10 ... Rs. 622 8 10			
October. 25 ditto ditto	11	2	8	60 oar pieces, at Rs. 7 per corge. 21 0 0			
Karkoon's pay from 26th August 1852 to 10th January 1853	31	2	7	Rs. 643 8 10			
Expense of shipping rafters of last year	6	7	0	Deduct expenses ... 182 1 6			
Petty charges	1	11	3		461	7	4
Shares of different Khotes to be paid to them	366	5	9	Other sales at Veer, &c.	728	14	0
Khotes to whom shares are due:—							
Bhandewlee. Tullowsee.							
Dabol. Natch.							
Rokri. Moolowlee.							
Kooshera. Wulun.							
Nandgaum. Advee.							
Total.... Rs.	457	9	3	Gross return.... Rs.	1,190	5	4

DR. No. 13. SATTARA CUTTINGS AND RETURNS. CR.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
For trimming and cutting the Teak at Chichnee, 20 men, for ten days, at Rs. 3	20	0	0	June 1852	0	11	0
Account book	0	11	3	July „	33	8	2
				August „	55	0	0
Carried forward.... Rs.	20	11	3	Carried forward.... Rs.	89	3	2

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	20	11	3	Brought forward.... Rs.	89	3	2
Karkoon's pay from September 1st 1852 to end of August 1853, at Rs. 8	96	0	0	September 1852.....	52	13	4
				October „	61	1	6
				May 1853	102	7	6
				Trimming at Chichnee, sold.....	63	8	0
Total.... Rs.	116	11	3	Total.... Rs.	369	1	6

Monthly pay of establishment ..... Rs. 22
This for twelve months..... 264
From this deduct two peons for watching jungle at Malcolmpeit, Rs. 9 per mensem.... 108

Total.... Rs. 156 annual sum actually paid to Peons for Teak forest here.

No. 14. KONDWEE, TALOOKA RYGHUR, ZILLA TANNA.

DR. *Cuttings for* 1852-53. CR.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Cutting of 5,765 rafters and other sticks by contract, at Rs. 1-9-0 per 100	90	1	3	Sold 5,665 rafters, at Rs. 28-4-0 per 100, by auction	1,600	5	9
Petty charges.....	5	11	3	Sticks 130 sold	98	15	0

Pay of Karkoon from August 19th 1852 to 1st June 1853, at Rs. 6 per month.....	56	8	3	Firewood.....	9	0	0
Total.... Rs.	152	4	9	Total.... Rs.	1,708	4	9

No. 15. JOWLEH BALESHWUR, ZILLA POONA.

DR. *Account of Sales of, and Expenditure.* CR.

Expenditure.				Receipts.			
	Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.
One-fourth share due to local or agreement forest keeper.....	25	9	0	Sale of 1,471 rafter sticks, at prices varying from Rs. 7 to Rs. 4 per 100.....	102	4	0
Total.... Rs.	25	9	0	Total.... Rs.	102	4	0

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 16. *Sundry Sales of Remaining Wood of* 1851-52.

Rankulatee, in Rajpooree,—sales of remaining materials from Garee Karkhana ..... Rs.	70	0	0
Sunjan,—sales of refuse of crooks	80	0	0
Malwan,—sale of 1,250 rafters by auction	601	0	0
Sales at Khoomla of overplus of rafters 235 sent to Kurrachee ..	129	4	0
Remaining of 1851-52 materials at Kallian, by Mamlutdar, at Rs. 40 per 100	66	7	1
Nuroda material remaining at Panwell, 463 rafters, at Rs. 40 per 100	185	3	3
Cart material remaining at Rankulatee, realised this year.....	50	12	0
Nigrolee, Peta Tulleh, Talooka Rajpooree,—			
Nigrolee, 170, at Rs. 21 per 100.....	36	15	7
Maktee, 543 rafters, at Rs. 21	118	1	8
Mulatee, 175, at Rs. 20 per 100	35	0	0
Sookhelee crooks..	119	8	5
Oomur Khind	30	0	7
Sale of 100 rafters remaining at Chas Kuman from 1850	7	0	0
Rs.	1,528	14	7
Deduct Khotes' shares.....	143	5	1
Total.... Rs.	1,385	9	6

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 17. *List of Persons Fined for Wood Stealing, also Amount realised by Wood Sold in* 1852-53; *from 5th June* 1852 *to 5th June* 1853.

Talooka.	Amount of Fine.			Share of Fine to Informer.			Remainder.			Amount realised by Auction of Wood.			Total.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Sunjan	4	8	0	....			4	8	0	2	5	6	6	13	6
Mahim	7	0	0	....			7	0	0	9	11	3	16	11	3
Bassein	6	0	0	0	8	0	5	8	0	4	2	5	9	10	5
Kolwan	154	2	0	36	11	0	117	7	0	36	3	0	153	10	0
Bhewndy	14	6	0	....			14	6	0	33	3	7	47	9	7
Kallian	45	8	8	12	8	0	33	0	0	48	10	4	81	10	4
Moorbar	64	8	0	27	8	0	37	0	0	9	9	4	46	9	4
Nusrapore	32	2	0	5	0	0	27	2	0	5	10	1	32	12	1
Tullowjeh	23	0	0	11	8	0	11	8	0	8	4	3	19	12	3
Panwell	....			....			....			0	10	0	0	10	0
Penn	52	0	0	23	0	0	29	0	0	25	3	6	54	3	6
Rajpooree	30	4	0	8	0	0	22	4	0	19	10	7	41	14	7
Ryghur	50	4	0	31	1	0	19	3	0	14	6	8	33	9	8
Sewnere	14	0	0	3	0	0	11	0	0	15	8	5	26	8	5
Khair	14	12	0	0	8	0	14	4	0	5	2	8	19	6	8
Havailee	14	14	0	1	6	0	13	8	0	15	1	5	28	9	5
Poorundhur	....			....			....			51	15	1	51	15	1
Bheemthuree	....			....			....			0	3	9	0	3	9
Total.... Rs.	527	4	0	160	10	0	366	10	0	305	9	10	672	3	10

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 18. Urjoon Maistree.

Account of Expense of Crooks.

Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.
Despatched per "Luxmee," 31st October, charges.	289	2	0
Ditto ditto 13th November do..	330	0	0
Ditto ditto 29th do. do..	217	8	0
4. Bowanee	236	0	0
5. Chandnee	240	8	0
6. Bowanee	236	0	0
7. Sakree Sullamuttee	298	0	0
8. Chandnee	247	0	0
9. Sakree Sullamuttee	138	0	0
10. Bowanee	369	0	0
11. Chandnee	282	0	0
12. Sakree Sullamuttee	136	8	0
13. Ditto	106	0	0
14. Ditto	11	9	0
15. Nurbudda	211	8	0
16. Sakree Sullamuttee	296	0	0
17. Chandnee	259	0	0
18. Wazeer	160	0	0
19. Ditto	142	8	0
20. Sakree Sullamuttee	138	0	0
21. Bankanee	738	0	0
22. Bowanee	353	8	0
23. Chandnee	373	0	0
24. Sakree Sullamuttee	194	8	0
25. Ditto	150	8	0

Copy of Bill on Account of Crooks, Knees, &c. as furnished to the Military Board, 16th August 1853.

Materials furnished as per Account to Military Board.	Rs.	a.	p.
Crooks, 1st Class, 6, at Rs. 400- 0- 0 per corge.	120	0	0
„ 2nd Class, 90, at Rs. 312- 7- 5 do. ..	1,406	1	4
„ 3rd Class, 254, at Rs. 209- 2- 6 do. ..	2,656	4	11
„ 4th Class, 99, at Rs. 92-15- 5 do. ..	460	2	9
Knees, 1st Class, 42, at Rs. 319- 4- 9 do. ..	670	8	4
„ 2nd Class, 90, at Rs. 207-13-10 do. ..	935	6	4
„ 3rd Class, 185, at Rs. 174- 2- 7 do. ..	1,610	15	11
„ 4th Class, 180, at Rs. 116- 1- 9 do. ..	1,044	15	8
Boat timbers, large, 684, at Rs. 30 per corge	1,026	0	0
„ „ small	321	3	2
Sotas, 327, at Rs. 75-1-11 per corge	1,228	3	4
Oar sticks, 542, at Rs. 7 per corge	189	11	2

26.	Ditto		217	8	0			
27.	Ramban Dannee		530	8	0			
28.	Muzeerkady		55	0	0			
29.	Ramgewun		253	0	0			
30.	Sakree Sullamuttee		233	8	0			
31.	Ditto		134	0	0			
32.	Luxmee		137	0	0			
33.	Sirdaree		99	12	0			
Waling rafters at Gorabunder			0	12	0			
One wank remains at Bassein			5	0	0			
Material obtained in the forest by contract with wood-cutters, amount varying with distance, difficulty, &c.	His pay from 1st September to 18th June, at Rs. 35 per mensem....		336	0	0			
	Total.... Rs.		8,155	11	0	Total.... Rs.	11,669	8 11

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 19. *Account of Expenditure and Returns from Colaba Forest for* 1852-53.

Expenditure.				Receipts.			
	Rs.	a.	p.	*Teak furnished in Durkhasts.*	Rs.	a.	p.
To amount paid for cutting and dragging 113 logs at contract....	50	0	0	1852, June, Oonderee, Talooka Rewadunda,— Rs. 61 4 0.... Rs. 17 1 0	78	5	0
Carried forward.... Rs.	50	0	0	Carried forward.... Rs.	78	5	0

Expenditure.				Receipts.							
	Rs.	a.	p.							Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward.... Rs.	50	0	0				Brought forward.... Rs.			78	5	0
				1852, July, Rs. 3	8	0	Rs.	7	11	0....	11	3	0
				August, ...	....			14	15	0....	14	15	0
				October, ...	....			37	5	0....	37	5	0
				November, ...	....			18	12	6....	18	12	6
				December, ...	....			10	5	0....	10	5	0
				1853, January, 6	0	0	....	63	3	6....	69	3	6
				February, ...	....			13	6	0....	13	6	0
				March, ...	....			132	9	6....	132	9	6
				April, ...	....			168	3	3....	168	3	3
				May, 2	6	0	....	358	3	3....	360	9	3
				Fallen trees, dead wood.....							518	5	1
				Stealings sold by auction							64	11	6
				Wood cut for Government purposes							105	6	10
Total.... Rs.	50	0	0				Total.... Rs.				1,503	4	5

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,

Conservator of Forests.

No. 20. *Summary of Expenditure from Teak Forests, and Returns for* 1852-53.

No.	Names of Places.	Collectorate.	Gross Returns.			Expenses.			Nett Returns.		
			Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1	Singhur	Poona	1,457	6	3	476	6	11	980	15	4
2	Kursoondee and Nemar.	Tanna	1,466	13	6	203	12	0	1,263	1	6
3	Shenwee and Wawa....	Ditto	1,021	11	3	474	14	7	546	12	8
4	Gornehr	Poona	787	2	0	285	8	5	501	9	7
5	Urjoon Maistree.....	Kolwan ..	11,669	8	11	8,153	8	0	3,516	0	11
6	Kassimeera.....	Tanna	1,002	0	11	144	5	3	857	11	8
7	Sowna.....	Ditto	896	4	0	172	9	9	723	10	3
8	Kolwan, Rafter-cutting..	Ditto	1,036	10	9	305	9	10	731	0	11
9	Khandus.....	Ditto	464	15	7	96	11	0	368	4	7
10	Veer, &c.....	Ditto	1,190	5	4	457	9	3	732	12	1
11	Kondwee.....	Ditto	1,708	4	9	152	4	9	1,556	0	0
12	Nagotna	Ditto	1,182	4	4	476	13	8	705	6	8
13	Kekvee	Poona	2,351	2	9	605	8	6	1,745	10	3
14	Bheemthuree	Ditto	1,264	4	2	295	11	3	968	8	11
15	Jowleh Baleshwur	Ditto	102	4	7	25	9	0	76	11	0
	Sundry Sales of Wood remaining from 1851-52 (vide No. 16)	....	1,528	14	7	143	5	1	1,378	9	6
16	Alibagh, Colaba.....	....	1,503	4	5	50	0	0	1,453	4	5
17	Sattara.....	Sattara....	369	1	6	116	11	3	252	6	3
18	Chas	Poona	7	0	0	....			7	0	0
19	Kolwan Fees	Tanna	12,770	14	6	881	15	1	11,888	15	5
20	Penth Hursool Fees....	Nassick ..	5,053	0	5	....			5,053	0	5
	Total.... Rs.	....	48,826	6	6	13,518	13	7	35,307	8	4
	Add Fines, and Sales of Stolen Wood.....								672	3	10
						Total.... Rs.			35,979	12	2

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 21. *Account of Fees Realised on Jungle Timber from June* 1852 *to June* 1853.

Hewra, August 19*th,* 1853.

Talookas.	Amount of Farmed Talookas.	Produce from Sale of Confiscated Wood.	Amount Realised by Fees through Customs.	Amount through Mamlutdars.	Gross Produce.	Expense of Mamlutdar's Establishment.	Expense of Custom Establishment.	Total of Expense.	Nett Return.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Sunjan	7,000 0 0	.....	.....	.....	7,000 0 0	.....	.....	.....	7,000 0 0
Mahim	5,550 0 0	0 12 6	.....	.....	5,550 12 6	.....	.....	.....	5,550 12 6
Bassein	4,525 0 0	.....	49 3 11	.....	4,564 3 11	.....	9 4 3	9 4 3	4,554 15 8
Bhewndy	2,550 0 0	.....	.....	.....	2,550 0 0	.....	.....	.....	2,550 0 0
Kolwan	.....	.....	.....	565 5 0	565 5 0	.....	.....	.....	565 5 0
Salsette	.....	.....	.....	545 6 3	545 6 3	97 4 0	.....	97 4 0	448 2 3
Kallian	.....	.....	123 15 5	647 1 7	771 1 0	111 1 4	4 9 8	115 11 0	655 6 0
Moorbar	.....	17 12 3	.....	20 10 0	38 6 3	.....	.....	.....	38 6 3
Nusrapore	.....	13 13 2	.....	242 14 0	256 11 2	70 6 4	.....	70 6 4	186 4 10
Tullojeh	.....	.....	49 0 10	.....	49 0 10	.....	.....	.....	49 0 10
Panwell	.....	.....	183 4 11	532 1 1	715 6 0	168 13 9	1 3 2	170 0 11	545 5 1
Penn	.....	.....	2,240 9 10	246 7 5	2,487 1 3	138 10 7	11 4 4	149 14 11	2,337 2 4
Rajpooree	.....	.....	1,001 15 0	314 6 0	1,316 5 0	98 1 7	8 10 3	106 11 10	1,209 9 2
Ryghur	.....	.....	.....	228 5 0	228 5 0	.....	.....	.....	228 5 0
Colaba	.....	.....	.....	877 8 9	877 8 9	.....	.....	.....	877 8 9
Mawul	.....	.....	.....	350 10 0	350 10 0	.....	.....	.....	350 10 0
Belgaum	.....	.....	.....	1,388 0 2	1,388 0 2	.....	.....	.....	1,388 0 2
Dharwar	1,270 10 8	.....	.....	.....	1,270 10 8	.....	.....	.....	1,270 10 3
Total....Rs.	20,895 10 8	32 5 11	3,638 1 11	5,958 11 3	30,524 13 9	684 5 7	34 15 8	719 5 3	29,805 8 6

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 22. *Account of Drafts from Forest Sanction for* 1852-53.

Sum sanctioned ..... Rs. 4,300.

						Rs.	a.	p.
14th September 1852,—								
Brought Hoozoor					Rs. 199	6	0	
Bill on Collector, Tanna					200	0	0	
						399	6	0
30th September, Bill on Collector, Poona					Rs. 300	0	0	
Ditto	ditto	ditto	Tanna		400	0	0	
						700	0	0
14th October, Bill on Collector, Poona					Rs. 400	0	0	
Ditto	ditto	ditto	Tanna		400	0	0	
						800	0	0
1st November,	Bill on Collector, Poona					70	0	0
14th December,	ditto	ditto	Tanna			300	0	0
19th December,	ditto	ditto	Poona			300	0	0
6th January 1853,	ditto	ditto	ditto			80	0	0
7th February,	ditto	ditto	ditto			50	0	0
16th February,	ditto	ditto	ditto		Rs. 32	0	0	
Ditto	ditto	ditto	Tanna		87	0	0	
Ditto	ditto	Commissioner, Sattara			24	0	0	
						143	0	0
3rd March,	Bill on Collector, Tanna					45	0	0
10th March,	ditto	ditto	Poona			80	0	0
18th March,	ditto	ditto	ditto			100	0	0
23rd March,	ditto	ditto	Tanna			30	0	0
10th May,	ditto	Commissioner, Sattara				16	0	0
1st June,	ditto	Collector, Poona				150	0	0
22nd August,	ditto	ditto	ditto			36	10	0
					Rs.	3,300	0	0
					Sum sanctioned....	4,300	0	0
					Difference.... Rs.	1,000	0	0

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

No. 23. *Memorandum of Teak Timber selected for the use of the Engineer Department at Kurrachee, from that brought from the Government Forests for the Public Auction.*

Description.	Quantity.				Rate.	Per	Amount.	Total Value.	Deduct Cost of Conveyance.	Government Profit.
					Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
348 logs	710	..	3	13	10 0 0	..	7,101 13 3	....	....	....
Deduct 10 per cent....	..	..	..	..	....	..	710 2 11	6,391 10 4	2,466 6 2	3,925 4 3
	710	..	3	13	10 0 0	..	710 2 11	6,391 10 4	2,466 6 2	3,925 4 3

Difference of cost if this wood had been purchased in the market..... Rs. 3,925 4 3

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

REPORT FOR 1853-54.

ROYAL BRANCH OF THE ASIATIC SOC

REPORT FOR 1853-54.

I HAVE now the honour to submit to the Board and to Government my forest accounts for the past year, wound up, as usual, to the end of May 1854.

1. In forwarding these, it is necessary that I should accompany them with a report as to the work carried on, and the progress made during the past year, in establishing the forest system, both as regards Teak and jungle timbers.

2. The remarks made will apply not only to the forests which I have been able to visit in person, but to others in which the arrangements have been carried out more or less under the Conservator's direction. Previous, however, to entering on this part of the subject, I beg to explain to the Board the reason why I continue my annual account instead of the six months' figured view of transactions contemplated under the new system of accounts, which came into operation on the 1st May last. I view the orders given under the new rules to be applicable to the several timber depôts, where there remains always a stock on hand, and consequently half-yearly accounts, embracing all the particulars connected with increase or decrease of this stock, are required; whereas in the Conservator's own division the transactions are limited to the provision of material immediately required for the public service, or to the improvement of forest by regulated cutting and thinning, the resulting material being in general peremptorily disposed of by public sale, and thus the operations are brought to an end within the limits of the dry season, without leaving any stock on hand.

3. This reason may, I venture to hope, be deemed sufficient to warrant me in continuing the course which I have hitherto followed, the more so as the doing this enables the Conservator to carry on his work with a much smaller establishment than he would otherwise require; and large establishments, independent of the expense they occasion, are in other respects a positive nuisance to an officer who is necessarily moving about the country during the greater part of the year.

Having disposed of this preliminary question, I now enter into the matter of the report.

4. The season was, as in former years, opened with a progress through

the Babool and Bher forests on the Bheema and Moota Moola rivers. I proceeded by the left or northern bank of the Bheema, and was thus enabled in the first instance to view the preserves of the Ahmednuggur Collectorate, lately made over to my charge, taking a view of those of the Poona Zilla on my way westward.

ALLIGAUM, OORULGAUM, KURJUNGAUM, NAGURGAUM, AND BABOOLSIR.

5. In the Alligaum and Oorulgaum bounds, I found the trees had, owing to continued cutting away, merged into the state of mere bushes; but as the ground in which these stand is of superior quality, I obtained from Government a separate sanction of Rs. 150 for the purpose of putting the trees into a growing state by means of an extensive pruning. From this, as explained in my letter No. 726, of 12th October 1853, I did not look for any pecuniary return, as small wood trees pruned are worthless in such situations. In a subsequent season, measures will be taken for proceeding with the other preserves here, where the thinnings will be more remunerative.

6. The cultivators here are too much disposed to make cultivation encroachments on the tree preserves, whenever they can possibly do so. Thus, in a case now under investigation, a ryot who had obtained possession of river cultivation (" pawt mulla") at once proceeded to cut down all the Bher trees, which had been there long preserved. This was a double evil,—viz. 1*st*, a transgression of the survey rule, which provides that on any person entering on a holding, the trees therein must be first put up to sale; 2*nd*, the cutting down of these trees must have deprived numbers of cattle of excellent food. This is an evil which, in a season such as the present has been, is of a very serious character. I was this year under the necessity of allowing the Bheemthuree ryots (on petition) the use of the numerous Bher trees in the preserves as food for their starving beasts.

7. I have detailed the above case in order to show the necessity which exists for keeping the river-side trees under the Conservator's control. As I have just heard of a trespass of a similar character, committed by the ryots of Walkee in the extensive preserve there on the opposite side of the river, I am respectfully of opinion that no time should be lost as to defining the true limits of these preserves, seeing that the ryots cannot be trusted with the care of trees which, in a scarce year, may prove the staff of life to the cattle of the community.

8. The subject of these river-side holdings will be found discussed in the papers which accompany the Government resolution of 2nd December 1851.

9. A good deal of damage occurred in the preserves, from a number of large trees having been carried away by the heavy flood in July 1853; but the number of promising trees in progress everywhere will make this loss to be less felt.

10. We this year thinned out a part of the Bher koorun of Tek Khamgaum, and about one-third of the more extensive Babool preserve at Kolowree; also the greater part of that of Kowree; with a nett profit, after deducting the annual cost of foresters, of Rs. 679-9-1, whereof about Rs. 200 are still outstanding, but in progress of collection.

11. The sale of thinnings is thus managed: the cultivators of different villages set out with their carts and bullocks during the slack part of the season to cart the wood to Poona, paying to us the forest price, which varies from Rs. 1-12-0 to Rs. 2 per candy for the green wood. They earn by its carriage to Poona (where it is immediately bought up and stored) sufficient to cover the hire of their cattle for the trip, and to leave them a small profit besides. This arrangement suits both parties, though we should deem it preferable to dispose of the thinnings by auction sale; but this, on account of there being little local capital in Bheemthuree, we cannot do.

12. The great preserve of Khangaum has not yet been begun on, as we await the completion of the grand Sholapore road to enable the cartmen to make this more distant trip in a reasonable time.

13. The sale of the Babool pods for the year shows an amount of Rs. 268-7-0, against Rs. 231-13-0 of 1852-53.

14. In conformity to the order of Government, as given last season, I took in charge the disposal of the grass of these preserves. I accordingly sold that of the kooruns in the Poona Zilla on the 5th July 1854. Owing to the very dry season, and there not being a blade of green grass at the time when the auction took place, I hardly expected that any purchasers would have appeared. The prices, however, in the aggregate of the twenty-three kooruns, gave an advance of Rs. 462-11-0 over those of last year. The Komavisdars of Havailee, Pabul, and Bheemthuree all gave me most efficient assistance in carrying through the sales. On the 10th July I held at Kandapore an auction of the preserves on the opposite side of the river, and situated in the Ahmednuggur Collectorate; but here, owing to circumstances which I will allude to below, no offers were made at all approaching to those of last season. I therefore deferred the sale.

15. The fact of these Ahmednuggur kooruns having the same advantages in point of soil and river climate which are enjoyed by those on the Poona side of the river would lead to the conclusion that their selling price ought to be nearly the same as that of the latter. There are, however, other circumstances which have operated to prevent a ready and remunerative sale.

These I have had the honour to bring to the notice of the Collector, who had previously ordered the local Native officers to afford me every assistance in conducting the sales.

In the mean time, I may state that by the help of my own agents there seems to be a fair prospect that the grass of the preserves may finally be sold for the season at a figure fully equal to that of last year. Further particulars shall be given in my next report.

PRESERVES NEAR KOREGAUM; TIMBER CUT FOR THE ARSENALS AT ADEN, &c.

16. From these we have obtained the supply required for public purposes. This the contractor was unable to furnish, as formerly, owing, I believe, to the exhaustion of the sources of supply in Kutch and Kattywar. I am of opinion that we can now from the Government preserves at any time furnish this timber of the requisite scantling, and of sound quality. The large Babool of Sind is (I believe on good grounds) deemed quite unfit for ordnance purposes.

17. We have this year somewhat diminished the extent of the Babool preserves, by giving up to cultivation the waste lands at Taklee and Kassoordee, first selling the standing timber; but as these are separately situated, not extensive, and moreover a provision has, if I mistake not, been made for keeping up the cultivation in them for twenty years, there could be no objection to our giving them over, particularly as their conservation dated only from 1849.

18. It were to be wished that the koorun of Pargaum, formerly a Government preserve, but which continues to be enjoyed by a Deshpandia, in virtue of his occupancy of the adjoining fields, could be brought back to its legitimate owners, as it contains very good wood, where any has been left standing, though I fear in progress of gradual extinction. The subject is one which I have brought to the notice of the Poona Collector, and it is well worthy of future inquiry.

19. After this were visited—

SINGHUR, AND THE NEIGHBOURING PIECES OF FOREST.

Here thinning out and trimming have been going on annually since 1843. We have now reached the western extremity of the plantations, and there remain to be cut the oldest crooked trees of Khamgaum, part of which may turn out inferior plank or wheel pieces, and a portion will be fit only for firewood; but it is of importance to get rid of those old and gnarled trees, which will in most instances be replaced by fresh and straight shoots. From the choice trees of this forest we were able to select a number of superior sticks for

the Electric Telegraph,—a point of some importance, as the expense and delay of bringing such from the Konkun were thus saved. The residue sold at prices varying from Rs. 74 to Rs. 49 per 100. The nett profit from this forest during the past year has been Rs. 2,167-4-0. In one or two of the neighbouring pieces of forest conserved on the share principle, there has been rather extensive plunder, the investigation of which has in one case foiled the authorities, and in the other a fine has been imposed, the effect of which will be good.

20. Travelling north, I visited the

PLANTATIONS OF CHAS KUMAN, KOORKOONDEE, KURDA, MOKUL, &c.

All these are situated on the slopes between the Bam, Bheema, and Gor rivers. It is now about twelve years since the subject of the scattered Teak plantation about many of those villages was taken up by the Revenue Commissioner, Mr. Vibart, at which time, owing to the modification of an item of assessment then made, the Teakwood repassed into the hands of Government. Since that time it has considerably increased in nearly all of them, as the broken declivities leading towards the river hardly admit of cultivation, and therefore are advantageously devoted to tree growth. Here, also, the Thakoors and others, who do occasionally cultivate these slopes, do so without injuring the trees.

21. We had for some years an extensive thinning in Chas Kuman plantation since it passed into the hands of Government. It had been previously too much exhausted to be meddled with in the way of cutting, but this year we have had an extensive trimming, at a cost of Rs. 86-12-11. The villages west of this, viz. Kurda and Mokul, belonged to the late Rastia. In these we had a cutting, in order to get rid of the gnarled wood. The material, though of very inferior quality, turned out a good profit, viz. Rs. 240-0-9, at an auction sale. This was directed to be kept in deposit until a final decision shall take place as to the ownership of these two villages.

22. In the mean time, as recommended in my reply to a reference through the Judicial Department some months ago, I would suggest that the payment of arrears due to the koorun keeper entertained under the late Rastia Saheb be sanctioned.

KEKVEE.

23. The regulated thinning and getting rid of the older crooked trees here, announced in my report of 1849-50 (paragraph 46) as having been begun, continues to be carried on, and from the extent of the forest there, as well as

in the adjacent villages of Dunkowree, Bomgowlee, and Mandhur, it seems likely to occupy us for at least four years more. The number of serviceable young trees put by means of trimming into a favourable state for growth is large,—probably each year about twelve thousand. The thinned out wood we were able to dispose of this year by auction sale, the demand continuing to be much more brisk than it was five years ago. From this forest, also, we were able to furnish a quantity of choice selected wood for the Electric Telegraph, and the overplus quantity cut realised remunerating prices.

24. The question of property in the Teakwood of the adjacent forest villages of Allundee, Sungumnair, &c., noticed in paragraph 48 of my report for 1849-50, continues unsettled; the proofs which I had the honour to forward to the Collector of Poona in June 1848 being, I presume, still under review by the Inam Commission.

GORNEHR FOREST,—ABOUT SEVENTEEN VILLAGES.

25. All these are conserved on the share principle, and the wood of those taken into conservation subsequent to 1845 continues to maintain its superiority over that of the older villages, where silent depredation had, I now feel satisfied, been long going on. We continued a series of cuttings in Gungapore and Goreh, but the untowardness of last season tended to prevent the possibility of auction sale at anything like an advantageous figure. I was therefore constrained to carry on the sales by retail. Here we have not, as in the preserves of Singhur and Kekvee, dealers ready to buy even to the last sticks. The neighbouring cultivators, and some few further down the valley, are the only parties who have the means of coming into the market, and the material is not such as to warrant a dealer bringing it to any great distance.

26. Having left Kekvee, I proceeded to Malcolmpeit on Forest Committee duty, which having been accomplished, I descended the Ghaut to

TOORMEH, KALOLEE, AND OTHER VILLAGES OF BEERWAREE MAHAL.

In the former of these villages I had this year a cutting of straight wood. From this we furnished 1,662 poles to the Electric Telegraph, and sold the remainder by auction at a fair rate. I had several extensive excursions through the mountain land of this and the neighbouring villages, and was pleased to observe that the Teak trees were very numerous, and in a thriving state. They are mostly preserved here on the share system, so that no expense has to be incurred for pruning or thinning; and, indeed, as there

is now left here little or no other material than Teak branches for burning on the fields, what we have to guard against is rather excess in the pruning process than any shortcoming. However, I was happy to observe that the head lopping of trees, noticed in paragraph 23 of my report for 1849-50, had been completely stopped. The nett return from cuttings here, after providing for shares of Khotes, was Rs. 695-8-5.

27. I have to notice that in this Beerwaree Mahal are sundry Khotes and other heads of villages, who have not taken advantage of the provision contained in the proclamation of June 1851, as to the Teak trees within their bounds, and still continue to resist cutting or pruning taking place there. I hope in the course of the present season to be able to bring them in under the same terms of agreement as have been accepted by about nine-tenths of the Khotes in these Southern Talookas. Also, there has been a long standing dispute as to the proprietorship in the Teak of Churaee, which the administrators of the temple in the fort of Purtabghur claim as belonging to them, in virtue of a three-fourth share which they hold in the village below, viz. Churaee. This matter also I hope to see shortly adjusted by the Inam Commission, to which tribunal I have recommended that it be referred.

28. Leaving the Beerwaree Mahal, I visited the

TOORUL AND YENEREH VALLEY TEAK PRESERVES.

These are separated from the former by a high range of hills. I have in former reports, from 1845 downwards, noticed the state of the plantations here, and have carried out in successive seasons the intention announced in my report for 1849-50, paragraph 20.

The state of the plantations is on the whole satisfactory as to preservation and progress, and we can have for some years to come a regulated cutting, accompanied by extensive trimming. The total nett return for the year from cuttings was Rs. 816-8-9. The expenditure in trimming during this last season was about Rs. 70, and for this amount I reckon that we have had ten thousand trees of promising growth benefited.

29. From hence my progress was to the

PLANTATIONS IN GOREGAUM PETA, INCLUDING THE GOELEH TUPPA.

Here we are mostly on the share conservation system again, consequently for trimming no expenditure is necessary. In the different villages here there is mostly always a back-ground of hill and sloping land covered with young

forest for about two-thirds of its ascent, the tops of the hills being mostly fine waving plains, sprinkled with jungle trees, and devoted to cultivation or pasture.

30. We had two rather profitable cuttings this year, and a great number of trees have been brought, by pruning, into a progressive state. The nett profit, after providing for Khotes' shares, was Rs. 898-9-9. Owing to the Hubshee's border being so near, depredations continue to an extent not found in other Talookas, and I am respectfully of opinion that, on this account, a local Amuldar having strength and activity is more required than in most other parts of the Tanna Zilla. On this subject paragraph 6 of my report for 1849-50 may with advantage be referred to.

31. My next course was towards the

TEAK VILLAGES OF THE TULLEH PETA.

Of these, the only one in which we had a cutting was Doongrowlee, where there is much good forest, the growth of which I have been carefully watching for the last eight years. The nett profit, after providing for the Khote's share, was Rs. 643-15-0. As the Mhars had done their part well in preserving this forest, I had much pleasure in giving them the bounty authorised by Government in December 1851. The Khote takes no trouble regarding the forest, but, residing in Tulleh, quietly draws his revenue from the villages. I wish that circumstances had admitted of our continuing the conservation with the Mhar or Dher Foujdar.

32. Throughout the Peta generally the Teak is in a fair state of preservation on the share system, which has been, with a very few exceptions, acceded to here; but the different shareholders of the khoteships in the villages are exceedingly greedy, jealous of each other, and difficult to be brought to believe that they are dealt with on equitable terms as to the amount of their shares. For instance, in the village of Maktee there are fourteen Khotes, brethren; each of these persuaded that his co-partner has been in some measure favoured, to his own exclusion.

33. This year the dealings I had with the Khotes of Tulleh were more than ordinarily complex, consequent on a great fire which had occurred at Tulleh in October last. I had demands for wood very numerous, and the demanders most importunate, and often something more. By putting on an additional forest keeper in January and February, I contrived to silence, if not to satisfy most of them, by giving a proportion of wood such as each village could spare.

34. From Tulleh I passed into

THE TEAK VILLAGES IN RAJPOOREE TALOOKA AND ALIBAGH BORDER.

I found the state of these very satisfactory. The depredations have been few, and, with the exception of a rather extensive destruction by dullee cultivation in Beerwaree Purguna, none of any magnitude. I regret that I have not had time to visit this Beerwaree, as more than one Native has spoken to me of the great necessity for our taking up the question of jungle-timber here, as it has been cut away until the ryot has nothing left for his fields; indeed, I saw myself, in 1849, that the Gosaleh Purguna hills, which I remembered in 1841 as having a good covering of jungle-timber, were then quite bare. I hope to compass a visit thither next hot season.

35. It may be asked of what use is a Conservator if he cannot prevent this; but it will be seen in the sequel of this report how little can be done against the banded inclinations and necessities of the ryots, unless the local Amuldars second the Conservator's efforts, by exercising a most vigilant superintendence.

36. We had also a thinning and cutting in the disputed bounds of Wawa, in ground long the subject of deadly feud between that village and the neighbouring one in Alibagh. We got a quantity of inferior wood (thinnings), which brought us a nett profit of Rs. 674-6-4; but the number of trees trimmed and put into condition was large, viz. about twenty thousand, and the cutting here has the further advantage of tending to extinguish the feud which has long existed regarding the right of each of the neighbouring villages to the forest.

37. While here, I had the honour to recommend that a quantity of adjacent "khajun" land, covered with thick tree vegetation, be cleared and reclaimed, as persons of some capital were willing to take it up on fair terms. I deemed the recommendation the more necessary, consequent on the fact that though the land is in the midst of salt-water creek, and much of it daily overflowed by the tide, there exists a plentiful spring of fresh water, near which some tigers, taking advantage of the water, and of the cover afforded by the jungle, continually lie in wait for the cattle of the neighbouring villages.

38. From hence I passed the border to the

ALIBAGH TERRITORY.

We had here no active operations in cutting, the chief work having been in complying with the durkhasts or requisitions for building wood, and in

pruning a quantity of the forest on contract. This mode appears advantageous where the proceedings of the contractors can be well watched, as is the case in this open country. It is less safe in more extensive forest.

39. Here, also, owing to the want of field burning material, we are able to trim not only without outlay, but with a considerable profit. Thus the contractors take the thinned branches for their own use at a reduced rate per cart-load, the difference between that and the full price representing the reward for their labours. In this way we realised a profit of about Rs. 850; the total of nett profit from the forest for the year being Rs. 2,028-7-9.

40. From Chowra I struck into the

TEAK VILLAGES OF NAGOTNA MAHAL.

Of such as I visited, being about fifteen, I found the forest in superior condition. In fact, the nature of the hills all the way from the east of Nagotna to the Savitree river is such as to draw up forest to rapid growth. The hills are mostly steep, with heavy scarps, and it is below these, and in the deep ravines adjacent, that the trees elongate themselves in search of air and light.

41. Choosing one out of many villages where the wood is ready for the axe, I fixed on Rafgaum. The nett profit here was Rs. 1,582-10-0. We also thinned out about five thousand young trees, and trimmed about twelve thousand, at an expense of Rs. 72. The thinned out material here was sold by auction at a very good profit, but the buyer having forfeited his deposit, we were obliged to re-sell, at a loss of Rs. 350 on the whole, and even the amount of this latter re-sale the local authorities had great difficulty in realising.

42. However great allowance we may make for the extreme rascality of the Pandhur-pesh population in this Mahal, I cannot help thinking that the Mahalkuree, either from supineness, or some other motive, sacrificed the interests of Government. His conduct in this, as well as in several other pecuniary and security transactions, which have been necessarily carried on through his office, I felt myself under the necessity of bringing to the notice of the Collector, with whom the consideration of the subject now rests.

43. From the hills in and around Rafgaum I expect to be able this season to get a respectable supply of crooked timber.

44. My next halt was at

OOMREH, TOOKSAEE, AND OTHER VILLAGES UNDER THE JAMBOOLPARA GHAUT.

A large supply of wood continues to be furnished from these villages, overshadowed as they are by steep precipitous hills, terminating in the Western

Ghauts. Besides material for sale, we also furnished about two thousand choice sticks for the Electric Telegraph, applicable to the line from Khandalla to Poona. The nett profit from proceedings here was Rs. 1,669-7-10.

45. The next station in my course was

WEENEGAUM, AND ADJACENT TEAK VILLAGES ON THE BOMBAY ROAD NEAR KHALAPORE.

We are now in the fifth year of cutting, trimming, and thinning in this cluster of villages, the great extent of the forest in which is only to be ascertained by making the circuit of the hills whereon it is situated. We continue to reap a good annual profit from the work carried on. This year we thinned out about five thousand sticks, whereof nine hundred were furnished for the Telegraph and the remainder sold by auction. The nett profit realised, after deducting expense of trimming, &c, was Rs. 831-10-0.

46. About twenty-five thousand young trees were also trimmed, at an expense of Rs. 141. I found, on going over the forest in January, that the trimming, owing to the laziness and inefficiency of the overseer, had been merely nominal; a few of the lower branches cropped, just for show. I consequently withheld payment of wages, until I had ascertained that they had done the whole efficiently.

47. We have had great trouble with thieves in this Mahal, and here, as well as elsewhere, the circular rule which forbids an action being laid for any delinquency after more than three months operates most injuriously on the Government property, as in most cases the practised thieves now bury the wood for a season, so that on being dug up it has the appearance of material cut more than three months before; hence the case is dismissed, as being one not within the rules. I would respectfully suggest that, if possible, some modification might take place in the present arrangement, at least as applied to forest.

48. From Khalapore Mahal I visited the

FORESTS AT KHANDUS, PATRUS, &c. IN TALOOKA NUSRAPORE.

Here we had a cutting to some little extent, and a very extensive pruning, 21,150 tall young trees having been trimmed. From hence we supplied poles to the Electric Telegraph for the line from Kallian towards Kampoolee.

49. I took a number of conservation agreements from the Khotes here, for in this nook of territory we have the Southern Konkun khotee system in

a considerably modified form. The nett profit on the cuttings, after deducting Khotes' shares, amounted to Rs. 209-5-8.

50. The Komavisdar of Nusrapore and his Head Karkoon, Rowjee Narrayen Datar, exerted themselves materially and usefully on this occasion, which is one of some importance, because the Teak here being immediately under and near to the very high Ghauts (of which Bheemashunker is 3,000 feet), gets drawn up to great length and straightness, and the trees will be double the height of those in the Rajpooree and Ryghur Talookas. Here depredations are few.

CHEWRA, MUSSA, AND MOORBAR, IN THE MOORBAR TALOOKA.

51. I now passed on to such of the wooded villages in the Moorbar Talooka as lay in my way towards Kolwan. The chief of those I looked at are Chewra, Mussa, and Moorbar. In this Talooka, as well as in Bhewndy, Bassein, &c, the Teak conservation orders were, owing to various causes, not acted on until a considerably later period than was the case in other parts of the country. Therefore, the trees of any size are fewer, but there is a large stock of young wood. We have had rather extensive destruction by dullee cultivation in the Kinnowlee Peta of this Talooka, but this is likely to be checked for the future by the efficient manner in which the case has been taken up by the Komavisdar and Mahalkuree.

52. My next visit on the route north was to

SHAHPORE, OR MAHOLEE TALOOKA, AND FROM HENCE TO KURDEE.

I cannot say much for the good state of the Teak here, though in the more northern parts of the Talooka I found it much more satisfactory. The vicinity of the great road which passes through Shahpore affords many opportunities for depredation, even with the best overlooking arrangements. Also, there is much old and gnarled wood here.

53. The contract sale of the fallen and half burned trees, including the refuse of the very extensive cutting which took place here last year, produced a good nett profit of Rs. 1,715-14-3. This includes a contract for cart materials which was also given in Kolwan.

54. Warned by the experience gained in 1852, and by what I have this year seen of the abuses and great waste which always take place when a contract in any shape is admitted for cutting Teakwood, I have now determined

that in Kolwan and its subordinate Petas, which are the main depôts for Teak within our limits, all cuttings shall in future take place under direct Government agency, and sales of the cut material be afterwards made. In this spirit I have replied to the petition of the Bhewndy merchants, who prayed that they might be permitted to cut Teak in Kolwan this year.

55. In support of this view, I may state that I had this year ample opportunities of noticing the great havoc which had been made in the most promising pieces of forest in 1852; and again, during the present year, I have reason to know that in the Penn Talooka, under cover of a cart contract, a great deal of young wood has been cut down, and a part of it had found its way to the Poona market previous to the discovery of the fraud.

ALMAN FOREST, IN WAREE PETA.

56. Leaving the main division of Kolwan, I proceeded by Agayee to the Alman forest. I went over a good deal of this fine piece of forest, situated on the north bank of the Wyturna river. It abounds in good wood of several descriptions, including Teak; but as I observed that the damage done to the young trees by annual conflagration is heavy, and many young plants are altogether burned up, I requested the Collector to put a stop to the annual burning of the forest grass, which is done in the hot season. The Collector having taken the same view of the subject as I did, issued strict orders regarding it, and peons were set to watch. Notwithstanding these precautions, the villagers contrived to set fire to the grass, and we have as yet been unable discover the perpetrators of the deed.

57. The Teak in the western part of the Waree Peta going towards Munnore I found in many places thick, and in all very promising in its growth.

FOREST UNDER ASHERA, MAHALUXMEE, &c.

58. Leaving Munnore, I journeyed by the inland road, viz. by the fort of Ashera, and the hill of Mahaluxmee, towards Sowta, in the Sudjan Talooka. Here the wood is generally taller than in the Southern Talookas. There are few or no old trees, but a supply of good timber will by and bye be obtainable from those in course of growth.

59. The Seesoo tree here, as in the Kolwan Talooka, is always found in narrower clefts and gorges of the hills. Permits to cut it are specially granted at a certain rate per cart, varying from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5, according to situation.

SOWTA, AUGUR, AND REOOLEE; AND ADJACENT TEAK FOREST VILLAGES, TALOOKA SUDJAN.

60. I mention the first three of these merely by reason that there is an extensive bit of forest close to the creek, containing a few trees fit for use, but by far the greater part small, and thickly set together.

61. Small as this bit of forest seems, we had from it a nett profit of Rs. 1,252-5-1. I wished to have thinned out a large quantity of the wood here, and would willingly have expended a good sum in doing so, but I found no labour was to be had, as it was then the wood-cutting season in the larger jungles.

62. In the inland part of this Talooka there is much fine young Teak. I saw a part of it at Juree, and other places. We shall in a few years get from these a great supply of boat masts and yards. During the ensuing season, I mean to have a thinning out in some of these, in order to improve them, and also to make my people acquainted with the localities hereabouts.

SHEERGAUM, PALEE, KURUMBELEE, KURUNGAUM, AND BEELSAR, TEAK VILLAGES BORDERING ON THE WURROWTA RIVER.

63. I passed on to these after leaving Suree and others. The forest here becomes comparatively scattered as we near the Guzerat border. Sheergaum has a two-mile patch of Teak forest. In the other villages it is chiefly on the hills near the river. Viewing the detached situation of these, and the round which must necessarily be taken by a forester in order to visit them, I have given the conservation of them on share agreements. They will be visited occasionally by the forester entertained for this Talooka.

FOREST PIECES NEAR BUGWARRA, IN THE SURAT COLLECTORATE, AND ALSO IN PARNERA.

64. The former of these have only now begun to be visible from the road. On my last journey from Guzerat, in 1850, they were not observable. They are situated in the clefts of the hills which divide this Purguna from Damaun.

65. The forest at Parnera continues small, notwithstanding it was thoroughly trimmed in 1847-48. After passing this I reached the Bulsar depôt, which will be noticed at more length below.

CHINCHYE AND BELWAJ FORESTS, ON THE PAR RIVER.

66. These are situated on the bank of the river which divides the Purguna of Bulsar from that of Bugwara, and the Dhurumpore Raja's country. In fact, they are placed just where the open country ends. The wood, both Aeen and Teak, is found in quantity, and of the superior size which distinguishes all the productions of Guzerat from those of the Deccan, &c. The trimming was superintended by Mr. Davidson, Second Assistant Northern Division. It cost us Rs. 49-8-0, and the return was *nil.* This was expected, inasmuch as here wood has next to no local value until it reaches the size of large logs.

67. Leaving Chinchye, I entered the Dhurumpore or Ramnuggur forest, which it is necessary to traverse in order to reach Penth Hursool; but as the British Government has small interest in the forest, I pass on to

PENTH HURSOOL.

68. I had not visited this forest since February 1852. I examined about thirty of the forest villages, and saw that some improvement had taken place since 1849. Much still remained to be effected. The system of thorough pruning of the old and worthless wood, and the top-lopping of the younger and more hopeful trees, which latter are the only ones worth the trouble of pruning, was still too common. I was informed, also, that the District Kool-kurnees, who appear to have very extensive charges and influence in those parts, abstained very much from co-operation with the forest authorities.

69. The different abuses and shortcomings I noticed and embodied in the form of a memorandum to the Sub-Collector, and I drew the attention of the local officers to several instances of great destruction to young forest, and I believe with good effect.

70. A serious drawback here continues to be the want of a fixed boundary to the holdings of the extensive Jageers in this principality; hence our forest is continually exposed to depredation, the consequence whereof is generally long correspondence, without any result.

71. I had also occasion this season to observe the great opportunities afforded for fraud under the present system of "wurees," a reckoning by draught of bullocks. I am now about to address the Sub-Collector, in the view of introducing a change in the rates founded on measurement by "tassoos," or inches.

72. We have not made arrangements for an extensive cutting in Penth this year, having marked only seven villages on the western or Damaun border. I have purposely narrowed the sphere of action this year, in order that there

may be less difficulty regarding the new measurements. The return this past season from collections on wood has been Rs. 7,560-11-0, showing the advantage of the present system over that of farm, which was adopted for one year.

73. Leaving Penth by the route of Hursool, I ascended the Ghaut into the

NASSICK SUB-COLLECTORATE.

Here I had an experimental cutting in one Talooka, viz. that of Kownaee. In fact, forest of all descriptions is so rare here that the trifling quantity in the Talookas of Dindoree and Kownaee may count for something. It is only in the forks and ravines of the great hills lying near Putta, and in the prolongations of elevated land from thence, that we have any forest; and even there the trees are yet but of recent growth. The experimental thinning at Barsingnee and Washale, above mentioned, produced a fair return, viz. Rs. 630 nett profit.

FOREST IN ANKOLA TALOOKA, AND KOTOOL MAHAL.

74. Of the latter I saw a good deal on my journey south: the former I have not seen for some years.

75. In the Kotool Mahal there is more forest than is the case in the Kownaee Talooka, but both here and in the other forest Talookas of this Collectorate, obstacles, which I may elsewhere have to notice, have occurred to delay or prevent the introduction of our forest system; and I deem it probable that, should the same obstacles continue, it may not prove worth while to keep any forest establishments in the western districts of this Collectorate. This I think is to be regretted, because the Western Talookas are much more destitute of tree vegetation than the same line of the Poona Zilla, where we have now a respectable modicum of forest.

76. In the Ankola Talooka there has been great destruction; not without suspicion of connivance or participation on the part of some of the local authorities.

BRAHMINWARA AND SEWNERE MAHAL PLANTATIONS.

77. Of these scattered plantations some are now ready for the axe; and in Chas Peepulduree and Lingdeo we had a pretty extensive trimming in 1850. The material felled then had (albeit a remunerative) yet a very poor sale, which is not to be wondered at, viewing its inferior quality, and the rugged nature of the country, which renders carriage to any distance extremely difficult and expensive. This year we had a trifling cutting of River Jambool,

from which, after deducting the one-fourth share due to the keeper, there remained a nett profit of Rs. 27-12-0.

78. None of the few plantations in the Sewnere valley are as yet fit for cutting, but in a few years they will give a good return. I scattered a quantity of seed in the slope under one of the great hills, in the chance of its vegetating.

79. Thus by March 4th I had completed the circle of supervision which I began on October 4th, leaving to be viewed in the hot season sundry plantations in

KALLIAN TALOOKA, GORABUNDER IN SALSETTE, BAUMAN TUPPA IN ALIBAGH, ALSO KASSEW AND OTHER VILLAGES OF NAGOTNA MAHAL, AND WURSAE AND SUNDRY VILLAGES OF PENN TALOOKA.

80. All these formed the subjects of visits in April and May. Their general state was observed and found to be satisfactory. As we had no cutting in any of them, with exception of that which necessarily took place in the line of the railroad from Kallian as far as the Kaloo river, any further remarks regarding them are unnecessary. An expensive establishment was necessary to cut the wood occurring in the railroad line, otherwise there might have been much unnecessary waste of forest. Hence the expenses of the watching and cutting establishments here were Rs. 145-3-3, balanced by a return of Rs. 114-9-6 from the sale of the wood felled.

81. When at Alibagh I arranged regarding the

BHENDY PLANTATIONS AT SAKURIA AND SAT TAR.

Of these the particulars have been or will be given elsewhere. To go into detail regarding them here would only swell a report already I fear too long.

82. I now proceed to notice various forests and forest countries which it was not in my power to visit this year, but regarding which I have been more or less kept informed by the several officers in charge, or by my own subordinates who were employed there.

BEDEE FORESTS OF BELGAUM COLLECTORATE.

83. I much regret that it was out of my power during the present season to visit this promising forest, as, from reports received by me from different parties, the presence of the Conservator here would appear to be most necessary.

84. In my reports from 1845 downwards will be found numerous notices regarding this jungle. When I last saw it, it was in a flourishing state, but

the statements forwarded to me by Captain W. C. Anderson, Superintendent of the Belgaum Revenue Survey, as also by the Karkoon who had the superintendence of jungle trees there, lead me to believe that great damage has taken place, by extension of koomree or bill-hook cultivation.

85. However great the damage done in the Teak portion of the forest, yet it is apparently small compared to the more extensive burnings and clearings which are said to have taken place in the jungle-wood forest and the Bamboos. To such a height had this reached, that my informants have stated their opinion that, at a rate of clearance similar to what took place last season, there will be no forest to preserve. (Vide official letter from Captain Anderson; also Native letters from Karkoon Mahadeo Bhikajee).

86. The Karkoon whose appointment Government were pleased to sanction in October 1853 proved of great use in bringing different abuses, frauds, &c. to my notice, and to that of the local authorities. In this view I would respectfully recommend that his appointment be made again, from 1st November, at a salary of Rs. 15 per month, to 15th June inclusive. His pay was Rs. 10 last season, but his services are worth the difference.

87. We had this season an experimental cutting of rafter and log timber in the Bedee Talooka, having cut 5,180 rafters and 138 logs. Had the arrangements for sale been properly carried out, we should have realised a good nett profit; but owing to the extraordinary conduct of the local authorities at Bedee, in not making (as far as I can learn) public the notice of sale, which was duly forwarded by me to the Collector on 7th January, and by him transmitted on the day of receipt to the Talooka of Bedee, no auction took place, so that the material had to be disposed of by gradual sale, and of 138 logs, only three were sold, at a price of Rs. 11-5-0 each. The rest remain on hand.

88. From what I have heard I deem it of much importance that I should in person visit this forest, and therefore I propose to do so on my return from Canara and Malabar about February or March 1855.

89. I did not hear that the local authorities at Bedee awarded any punishment in the several instances of fraud which were brought to their notice, and altogether their influence appeared to be rather obstructive than adjutory, particularly as they (probably from ignorance) threw, as I am prepared to prove, difficulties in the way of our disposing of any Teakwood whatsoever.

FORESTS OF CANARA, &c.

90. Regarding these and the Malabar transactions, I continue to be kept regularly informed by Mr. A. Poulton, the officer in charge.

91. Mr. Poulton having returned from his temporary leave to the Neilgherries, has resumed his duties in the Canara forests, the depôt transactions at Calicut having been carried on by him while he was at the Hills. He readily managed this, because these transactions are now of a very limited character as to provision of timber. In Canara, however, this year, his business is more extensive, as, besides his general duties in the forest, he has to provide a large supply of crooks, now under preparation in the country east of the Gungawulee river above the Ghauts; and he is also vested with the provision of a number of Poon spars from the Koorg forest border.

92. The letters of Captain Anderson, which I have at different times received, describe great ravages as having taken place in the forests north and east of the Seedh falls. These ravages were caused by burning, Bamboo destruction, and cultivation clearing.

93. It appears that the too stringent forest rules attempted to be enforced in the Goa country below have had the effect of driving great numbers of Gowlees and others into our forests in the up-country. I trust that the late regulations made by the Collector of Mangalore regarding farms and cutting generally in this upper forest will have their due effect in saving it while it is yet time to do so. These regulations were submitted to me for opinion about eight months ago, when I made a favourable report on their nature and tendency.

94. Mr. Poulton continues to give every satisfaction in regard to the mode in which he does his work, and the return which I had the honour to submit to the Board along with my letter No. 795, of 29th July, will, I trust, evince to Government that his exertions for the benefit of the State have not been fruitless.

95. An interesting fact has been brought to my notice by Mr. Poulton, viz. that one reason of the high prices realised at the sale of rejected wood was that the export of Teak houses in frame from Malabar to the Gold Regions in Australia has begun on rather an extensive scale. This may have the effect of keeping up the prices of medium and inferior wood for years to come, and may even by and bye, in our own forests, tend to rule prices.

96. I last year stated my intention of proceeding to Malabar, in order to look after the present state of the southern depôts, make a fixed arrangement touching establishments, and view the upper forests on my return to the Bombay limits. I was not, however, able to accomplish this purpose, partly from important committee duty in December having detained me within our limits. I hope, however, to be able to see to that necessary part of my duty early in the present season, and will, in a short time, have the honour to submit to the Board and the Government certain arrangements which may be found necessary for carrying on the duty within our limits in my absence.

FORESTS IN SAWUNT WAREE.

97. Owing to my inability to visit this principality in the past season, I solicited of Government, some seven months ago, permission to detach a Karkoon, on a separate sanction of Rs. 20 per month, for four months thither. The expenditure I afterwards found reason to modify, by paying the Karkoon Rs. 15, and to a peon who accompanied him Rs. 5, total Rs. 20.

98. I detached a careful hand, who had previously considerable experience in the Colaba country. He met with every assistance from Major Auld, the Political Superintendent, and made me a full report on the present state of the forest there, the condition of which he describes as being good; and that a large rent by export is the chief requisite. This also I hope to be able to see to on my return from the south, in consultation with Major Auld.

FOREST OF RUTNAGHERRY ZILLA.

99. Foreseeing my inability to visit this part of the country in the season, I in August last had the honour to request of Government that the Second Assistant of the Northern Establishment might be allowed to be detached to carry out the arrangements necessary on the publication of the proclamation of June 1851. Government were pleased not to approve of this proposal, but owing to a misunderstanding of the words of the Order in Council No. 6430, of 4th November, paragraph 1, latter part, Mr. Davidson was ordered down, and Government were pleased afterwards to sanction his remaining in the Severndroog Talooka till the end of January, for the purpose of carrying on the sales at the Band forest.

100. Government, however, have not yet sanctioned the payments necessary for the passage of Mr. Davidson to and from Guzerat, and I would respectfully request that this may be done. I addressed Government on the subject on the 20th April last, No. 383, and again on the 10th June, memo. No. 533.

101. Adverting to the fact of Mr. Davidson being ignorant of the Murathee language, and to the *absolute necessity* that a forest officer exercising any degree of responsibility out of the limits of Guzerat should have a good knowledge of that dialect, I now think Government have taken the safe side in declining to allow him to have anything to do with settlements of a nature so delicate as those which were proposed. He, however, was found of use in conducting sales, which took place from the wood thinned out of several villages of the Band forest. These realised a nett profit of Rs. 1,334-14-11, though the thinning took place only in four villages out of ten. The remainder will be reserved for another season, for a reason which I have elsewhere given.

102. Previous to the departure of Mr. Coles, references were made to me regarding the settlement with Khotes of several villages on the Dabul creek, and also in Malwan Talooka; and, since he left, Mr. Spooner has brought to my notice a number of others in the Malwan Talooka. The wood of these Malwan villages had been granted by the Peshwa to certain Sawunt Sirdars, in virtue of their dignity or office.

103. The circumstances under which the grant was made appear to give a clear title to the British Government to these pieces of forest, however we may see fit to grant shares of the wood to Khotes or others hereafter; a measure, by the way, of which I would doubt the policy at the present juncture, seeing that the doing so might complicate survey arrangements now in progress.

104. I am about to detach a Karkoon for inquiry, but I do not expect to be able to offer my opinions to Mr. Spooner in a definite form until I can inquire on the spot, which I hope to do after passing the Waree border.

105. The sunuds produced are also important, as giving the clearest proof we have as yet been able to obtain, as to the royalty exercised by the Muratha Government over Teakwood.

106. Mr. Spooner has also forwarded some important papers regarding Teak forest in the Ghera of Seedghur, Talooka Malwan. These, with the other pieces of forest in that Talooka, in our charge, will fully occupy the attention of two out of the four keepers whom I am now about to entertain, consequent on the modifications of the establishment proposed by me in my letter of 18th April last, and sanctioned by Government as per Order in Council No. 2714, of 7th June 1854.

107. I hope to be able to give some attention to the forest of the Rutnagherry Zilla generally on my way from the south.

BULSAR ESTABLISHMENT, AND DANG FOREST.

108. Of this office I have not yet received the report for the year, but from what I observed when at Bulsar, I have reason to think that the transactions may show a favourable balance. There seems to be rather a brisk demand for timber required for the construction of country vessels.

109. I do not know if it may suit the purpose of the electric telegraph officers to secure a large supply of posts for the permanent line from this and from the southern depôt, but in case they should do so, we can from these, as also from the condemned naval timber in Bombay, in all probability give a large supply ready to hand. This subject should be kept in view.

110. The concentration of the operations of this northern depôt at Bulsar, joined to the simplification of accounts caused by the arrangements which came into action on the 1st May last, have enabled me to propose and carry into effect a considerable reduction of establishments, a part of which saving will be applicable to the payment of the foresters, so much required in the Southern Konkun and some other quarters.

111. As more copious details regarding the coast transactions of the depôt will accompany Mr. Fenner's annual statement, this much may now suffice regarding it.

112. Touching the state of the forests from which the depôt is supplied, I am fortunately in possession of materials for a more full report.

113. Mr. Davidson, after his return from the Konkun, was employed from the 21st February until the end of May in visiting different parts of the Dang, and I arranged that Mr. Fenner must, in the course of the season, pay two visits, of twenty-one days at each time, to the forest.

114. On the whole, the reports show that while the destructive cultivation by the Bheels is in some places, as in Wasoorna, pretty extensive, there is a large supply of young timber in progress throughout the forests; and that under our system, repressive (as I hope it will continue) of destructive cultivation by tree burning, lopping, and heading, we may look for an inexhaustible supply of Teak and other valuable jungle woods from this forest.

115. Many of these jungle woods will come into important use whenever a road shall be opened to traverse the forest from west to east, debouching at Bulsar. In regard to this, we as yet seem to have gone on gathering opinions. I trust that these may soon ripen into a measure of action, for we clearly suffer an annual loss by the want of such an artery of communication with Khandeish and Berar.

116. The much vexed question of divided Gaekwar and British jurisdiction, and, I may add, of Gaekwar usurpations of the rights of a parcel of poor drunken wretches, the Rajas and their subjects, continues, and, what I deem to be an equally heavy grievance, is the heavy duty on our timber which is allowed to be levied by the Gaekwar and Bansda authorities, while their wood produce passes free. This gives them, in the eye of the Native population, a superiority of claim to the forest, the exercise of which is often injurious to our property. The cession, also, of the whole of the fort of Salheir to the Gaekwar authorities, trifling as the right parted with may seem to have been to us, has had a very injurious effect, in leading the former to extend claims, for which vouchers can at all times be had for a few pice.

117. It will be observed from the log of Mr. Davidson, under date 25th April, that one serious depredation within our boundary had been partly stopped; at least that the timber had been seized. This is one of the many proofs of the necessity for completing the boundary marks, a work well carried on by Mr. Harvey, late Second Assistant. The subject will be pressed on the attention of Mr. Davidson as soon as practicable during the ensuing season.

118. With the aid of this measure, and with that of such tours as Mr. Fenner and Mr. Davidson have this year made, I have no doubt that we shall annually find the state of the trees in the Dang better and better, and in fact we can even now (vide reports) see the benefit of a working and travelling Second Assistant, such as Mr. Harvey was.

119. I beg to recommend the reports of Mr. Fenner and Mr. Davidson to the favourable notice of Government.

120. The death of Ankoos Raja, Chief of Derbowtee, which lately took place, is a loss. From the notes of Mr. Fenner, it will be seen that his forest is in a very good state, and, in fact, he appeared to be the only respectable Chief in the lot of Dang Sirdars.

121. The question of property in the forty-three villages of Waujpoor Tuppa, and that of a further usurpation on the part of the Gaekwar authorities, which I understand has since been discovered, are now I believe both under adjudication by the Inam Commission.

122. I have not received any expression of the pleasure of Government touching the proposed measure of taking Soolgana into our system of conservation under an annual rent. If this could be managed, it would give us great security on the southern forest boundary.

CHOWSALEH DEPOT, AND CONSERVANCY OF THE EASTERN DANG.

123. Regarding the transactions at Chowsaleh, I had the honour to report in letter No. 675, of 1st October 1853. By the sale then noticed, we cleared the depôt of all the wood, old and new, and realised on the whole outgoings from March 1852 a nett profit of Rs. 3,460-10-2, instead of Rs. 3,000, as I had estimated in the letter in question.

124. I had arranged for bringing up this year a fresh stock in large quantity, but the want of water and great prevalence of cholera in the Dang concurred to prevent this being done. We therefore got up only 953 sticks, besides 203 poles for the Electric Telegraph. I have in former reports stated the importance of our keeping up a supply here, as otherwise we may count on the wood being obtained by surreptitious means. The wholesome dread

left by the inquiry conducted by Major Morris will have the best effect for some years to come, but much vigilance will always be required.

125. The chowkee established by me on the eastern border continues to be of great utility, and by means of it I am kept better informed than I could otherwise be of the state of the back forest.

126. In future accounts with this Chowsaleh Depôt I purpose to credit to the Northern Department a portion of the profits which is justly due to it as signorage. I think about one-third of the selling price of the material may be the just proportion to carry to credit of the Northern Depôt.

SIND FORESTS.

127. My connection with the Sind forests is rather in the way of adviser than as having any direct control.

In fact, for one in my situation to exercise the supervision implied by the latter were next to impossible. It is right, however, that I should embody in this paper on forests in general a few remarks on these.

128. Captain Hamilton has favoured me with a copy of his last report on the forests of Middle Sind. From the careful inquiries which he has made, it appears that the state of these forests is most unsatisfactory.

129. I deem it unfortunate that the measure which I believe I recommended in the report made after my last visit in 1851, viz. that all cultivation in the forests should be under the control and license of the Forest Ranger, has not been acted on, seeing that the result of the contrary policy has been the destruction of forest (by water supply being cut off) so extensive as seriously to threaten a scarcity of wood for steamers navigating the river Indus.

130. I think it is to be regretted that Captain Hamilton did not sooner appear on the stage as Forest Ranger, and I only hope that the claims of the service may admit of his continuing in charge of this duty sufficiently long to retrieve the injury which has been done.

131. One consolation there is, that in a climate and soil like that of Sind, where the land borders on the river, we have only to determine that a particular piece of ground shall remain as forest, when nature and the scattering of a few bushels of Babool seeds will do the rest.

132. For convenience of reference, I beg to append Captain Hamilton's report, though probably it may already be before Government. (Appendix C.)

SATTARA FORESTS.

133. I should have embodied this division in that which follows the Deccan and Konkun; but as the papers connected with the measurement did not

(owing to the death of the Karkoon in charge) reach me until lately, I take up the subject here.

134. I have not been able to pay the bits of forest here a visit since I resumed charge of the department, but I have some hope of being able to do so in the course of the hot season of the ensuing year.

135. From what I formerly saw, I am of opinion that it will take many years to get up anything like wood preserves in that country, the previous destruction, especially on the Ghauts, having for years been great. During the past year we have rather more than cleared the expenses of establishment, including Karkoons; but of the keepers, two, representing a monthly charge of Rs. 8, are solely set aside for the preservation of the forest in and around Malcolm Peth. The charges during the past year were,—

Karkoons	Rs.	146	13	0
Keepers		264	0	0
	Rs.	410	13	0
Met by a return of.....		444	5	6
Balance to credit.....	Rs.	33	8	6

136. It is of importance that I should visit, if possible, the Sattara country while Captain Anderson is there on survey duty, as this officer takes a lively interest in the subject of forest preserves, and has great practical acquaintance with the details.

JUNGLE FEE COLLECTIONS.

137. Regarding this important branch of our forest system, it is necessary that I should go into some detail. We are now entering on the fourth year of the time during which the new scheme has been in operation. At first, of course there was much to amend, to modify, and to rectify. This I did to the best of my power in the end of 1851, and in the beginning of 1852. Since then we have had few complaints, and the receipts have increased from Rs. 16,996-1-10, which they were in 1851-52, to Rs. 35,126-0-1, the amount of last season's collections.

138. On the 9th February, letter No. 148, I had the honour to submit to the Collector of Tanna a proposal for several modifications in the existing system; premising that I had brought these to his notice thus early in the season in order that other parties might be consulted, and a decision arrived at previous to the period of beginning the new farms. It is needless to encumber this report by inserting these at length: I therefore subjoin and recommend to careful consideration a copy of the letter, which will be found in Appendix D.

139. I continue of opinion that several of these modifications might be attended with much benefit, but I have no desire to bring them forward unsupported by other officers of experience.

140. The latter proposal contained in the letter, as to endeavouring to obtain by negotiation or otherwise a free passage through a corner of the Jowar Raja's detached Purguna of Goonjan, a measure whereby our northern farm might be largely increased, should not, I am respectfully of opinion, be lost sight of. I satisfied myself this season, by actual inspection, that the mountain road proposed by the Sir Karkoon of Danoo to be opened, and thus to avoid the Raja's Purguna altogether, is a mere vision, and that there is no natural opening such as he stated, but a steep back of a mountain, hardly practicable for an unladen animal.

141. The Jowar Raja has not met the proposals of the British Government as to passes of an unmistakeable character with much alacrity, and has lately been endeavouring to procure a further change, which would make the passes still more indefinite, and open one more door for fraud. This proposal is now before the Collector of Tanna, and with Government.

142. The question of the irregular and excessive levy of the Raja made on our Dockyard spars passing the bed of the Pinjal river has not been, in as far as I can learn, ever settled.

143. The readiness with which the Punt Suchew adopted a system of passes formed on the model of ours contrasts favourably with the conduct of the Jowar Raja. As the land customs department cannot now, owing to its altered constitution, afford us any aid in making the collections, it is my intention this year to let in farm the whole of the fees leviable in the seaward Talookas.

144. To letting the inland fees, as in Nusrapore and Kolwan, on the same system, there are several objections, therefore these will be continued on the former system of direct collections.

145. The payment of all the local establishments for collection of fees has, since the new arrangements, which came into operation on the 1st May, devolved on the Conservator. This adds most considerably to the office work, though I think that it will in the end be an economical measure.

146. With respect to forest operations for the ensuing season, I have already intimated my intention of proceeding to Malabar and Canara so soon as the weather will admit of my doing so, and thus be able to return to our southern coast before the northerly winds set in.

147. On my way north I hope to be able to examine the Soonda forest, the Bedee forest, the Sawunt Waree back jungle, and a part of those of Rutnagherry. In passing through the latter Collectorate I may be able, in

concert with the Collector, to determine on the practicability or otherwise of carrying out the views of Government as expressed in resolution of 26th July, No. 3578, regarding forest preserves.

148. The extent of this proposed journey will operate to prevent my giving that minute attention which I could have desired to do, to cutting and thinning operations within our own limits this season ; and in this view I have tried to contract our active operations within as narrow a limit as possible, knowing that though we may have a smaller amount of nett profit at the end of the season, this remains, as it were, stored for another year.

149. As, however, the people in some of the Talookas are most urgent in their petitions for a supply of Teak, to give employment to their cattle and merchandise for themselves, I must of necessity have a pretty extensive cutting in Kolwan, trusting to be able to avail myself of the services of Mr. Davidson, Second Assistant Northern Department, to overlook this previous to the season when we can visit the Dang; and for some of the other Talookas nearer Bombay the temporary detachment of Mr. Williams may be practicable.

150. For both of these measures, in case they should be found necessary, I would respectfully solicit the sanction of Government.

151. In conclusion, the summary of disbursements and returns, which will be found in Appendix E, will show that the whole realisations from Teak and Seesoo cutting and jungle-wood fees have amounted to Rs. 71,038-15-1 ; that, deducting the expense for forest keepers, &c. the amount is Rs. 66,784-2-9 ; and further, deducting the salary and travelling allowance of the Conservator for twelve months, the remainder is Rs. 58,180-13-11.

152. It should also be observed, that in this expenditure is included the cost of pruning about seventy-two thousand growing trees, besides those which have been trimmed by the village shareholders.

153. In regard to trimming by these latter, I cannot say much that is favourable, and have now, owing to this circumstance, come to the conclusion that it is unadvisable, except in particular necessary instances, as in the three Southern Talookas of the Tanna Collectorate, and some portion of the Nusrapore Talooka, to extend the system of share conservation.

ALEXANDER GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

Hewra, 23rd August 1854.

APPENDIX C.

No. 10 of 1854.

REPORT OF THE FOREST RANGER IN SIND UPON THE MIDDLE SIND FORESTS.

I have the honour to forward, for your information, the following report on the forests in Middle Sind, and to save what to a person unacquainted with the different localities of the forests would be unintelligible,—details of the forest boundaries,—I have made a rough map* of the forests, and their positions on both banks of the river. I also send a tabular form of the quantity of wood in Major Scott's time (1847), and what is left now, and an estimate of the quantity of Tamarisk wood left fit for fuel for the Indus Flotilla.

2. On the 13th of March I left Sukkur, and proceeded to inspect the forests in Middle Sind. My experience in Upper Sind, and the description given me by the Deputy Ranger, which I have since found to be quite correct, convinced me it would be useless to appoint a place and time for meeting the Deputy Collectors to settle the boundaries, until I had inspected the forests, and laid before you an account of their present state, and what is absolutely necessary to be done to prevent the complete destruction of all the forests in this part of Sind.

3. With few exceptions, the whole number of forests are mere skeletons of what they were under Major Scott in 1847, when they were all properly surveyed. Since then, a steady system of destruction has been carried on by the Zemindars, and whether from misrepresentation, or ignorance of the extent of the injury, a stop has not been put to it by the Forest Department. Although Major Scott, Captain Crawford, and Dr. Stocks all foresaw, and have all placed on record their opinion that the system of giving up forest land to cultivators would end in the ruin of the forests, yet I believe none could have

* This is not deemed necessary to be inserted here.

imagined the rapidity with which the utter ruin of nearly all the forests has been accomplished. I will describe the forests as I inspected them; and, to prevent repetition, I will fully enter into the cause of destruction to the two first forests, which will serve for the others,—the same cause being the ruin of nearly all.

4. Nos. 1 and 2 on the map are the Nassree and Mudh forests,—they are in fact one forest, with a division between them, formed by a path. The river is rapidly cutting away the Nassree part of the forests, and inland the trees are dying from the water being cut off from the forest by the cultivators.

5. All the forests require much water, and this had been given them by artificial means,—forming the inland boundary by canals having small watercourses cut from them, so as to flood the lower parts of the forests, and form large pools, in which the water lays for a considerable portion of time.

6. The inland boundary of No. 1 and No. 2 forests is formed by a small canal with numerous cuts to let the water into the forests. The land on both sides of this canal has been given up to cultivators, which the late Forest Ranger allowed them to retain when fixing the new limits to the forest. He placed some of the boundary marks within fifty yards of the canal, so that without cutting through land he had actually given up, he could not have given the forest a drop of water, as the river seldom rises high enough to flow over the high bank at the time it becomes necessary to give water to the forests. On going round these forests I found every cut from the canal into the forest staked and filled up at the part of the land under cultivation nearest the forest. There are hundreds of young Bhawn trees lying dead on the ground, and hundreds dying, for want of water. Nothing could more speedily insure the entire destruction of the forest than giving up the old boundary to cultivators. All the Karkoons and Peons are aware that water must be given to forests from the inland side, as the banks of the river, generally speaking, are higher than the land immediately inside, and it would cause a delay of a month inside in letting water into the forest, as cutting through the bank direct into the river would probably cause the whole forest to be swept away, and without extraordinary rises in the river the forest will not get a sufficient quantity of water at the proper time, and the destruction of the trees is certain.

7. The Mehrabpoor forest (No. 3) contains a very small quantity of timber in three detached Moharees, only one containing timber trees, the other two Kundee and Tamarisk.

8. No. 4 (Marree forest), a large area, but a very poor straggling forest, with few large trees in it,—in the southern part, not fifty large trees in

five hundred acres. The cultivators have possession of both sides of the dund, and have ruined this forest.

9. No. 5 (the Rannah forest), on the left bank of the Ghara creek. There are a few fine old Babool trees, and some thriving young Bhawn on the right bank of the creek, between it and the river.

10. No. 6 (Noorpoor Bootta forest) is on the right bank of the river, opposite Rannah. It is the remains of a very fine forest, and still has fine timber trees in it, and ought to be strictly preserved. There is a large quantity of Tamarisk springing up on some new ground thrown up by the river. The old boundaries of this forest are extensive, but a great portion of the forest has been destroyed, and when the late Deputy Collector and Kardar had marked out what they considered ought to be the new boundaries, they had decided that one-sixth of the remaining timber land should be given over to the Zemindars. When I state that I consider this land, from the timber on it, to be worth at least Rs. 200 an acre, it will easily account for the eagerness of Zemindars to get forest land made over to them.

11. No. 7. On the same side of the river is the Majenda forest, a long strip, less than half a mile in breadth, except at the north end. The trees are Kundee and Tamarisk. This forest was wilfully set fire to while I was on the opposite side of the river, and burnt for a day and a night; and Mr. Williams, the Deputy Ranger, had some trouble in getting the fire under.

12. No. 8. On the left bank is the Noor Kettee forest. It is divided by cultivation, which greatly cuts the forest up into two Moharees, and in these the trees are straggling and few.

13. No. 9 (Bhanote forest). A few good Babool trees, the rest Kundee and Tamarisk. Forest much cut up by cultivators.

14. No. 10 (Khanote forest), thirty-two miles above Hyderabad, has been a very fine forest, and there are still a few fine Babool and Bhawn trees in it; but great numbers of trees are rapidly dying for want of water, although the old boundaries were formed by the Ghara creek and the river, thus surrounding the forest with water. The lower part of this forest has been so completely cleared that there is not a tree between Khanote and Gottana, a distance of four miles. The cause of the decay of the trees in this forest is the same as in nearly all,—cultivators getting possession of both banks of the creek, and cutting off the supply of water.

15. No. 11. On the right bank is the Oonerpoor or Meysah Gote Baila. It contains some fine timber, but has been extensively worked the last four years, and requires closing. The inland boundary is distinctly marked by a mound of earth. The river has formed some new ground, which is covered

with young Babool and Tamarisk; but, from the want of small canals to water the land, the young trees have not grown rapidly.

16. No. 12 (the Khebranee forest). It cannot even be called the skeleton of a forest, it is nothing more than an outline. A few trees on the bank, which are being cut away by the river, comprise the only timber in it, excepting a row of trees round the old boundaries.

17. No. 13 (the Shekaot forest). The timber trees are scattered about; some very old, and decayed. There are some good young trees near the river, but the inland portion about the Rechail Dund is completely cleared; but the forest can be well watered from this dund.

18. No. 14 (the Jakree forest) has very little timber—nothing to speak of. There is not so much cultivation in this forest as in most others, but it has been extensively worked for the last two years, and must be shut up.

19. No. 15 (the Kettee or Muttaree Baila) has some good young trees on the river bank, but very much cut up, and the inland part entirely under cultivation, and stripped of trees.

20. No. 16. On the right bank of the river is the Gug or Pettara forest, divided into two parts by the cultivators. The timber left, some of it large, is straggling, and inconvenient to move, being three miles from the river.

21. No. 17 (the Gullee forest), on the left bank of the river, has not much timber left, it having been extensively worked lately, and the river is now washing it away.

22. No. 18 (the Goondee Baila). Nothing is left of this forest but a few trees on the bank of a nulla, not worth cutting down.

23. No. 19 (Meer Nusseer's forest) is on the river side of, and is only divided by a path from, Meer Mahomed's forest. These two forests are entirely cut up by cultivators, and there are very few large trees left. Most of the land that was made over four or five years back is now lying fallow, and is covered with Tamarisk bushes, but every tree has been cut down and disposed of. The forest is over-stocked with cattle, and all the young Babool trees eaten and destroyed. All the trees that are left are in a sickly state, from want of water, many of them attacked by the lac insect, and dying.

24. I have here to remark that my predecessor boasted of the increase of lac he could supply from the Meeanee forests, little imagining that the more lac he collected from a forest the greater was the proof of the forest being neglected, and the supply of water cut off, and a certain sign that the trees are unhealthy. From what the Karkoons report, I believe the formation of lac to be most abundant after one or two dry seasons; and as all the forests that have portions made over for cultivation are deprived, by the cultivator stopping the canal

up, from having a proper quantity of water, I consider the evil may be removed by resuming part of the land under cultivation, and to opening the old water-courses.

25. The Karkoons report that if the branches on which the lac is collected (and when a tree is once attacked it spreads rapidly over it) are not cut, the tree will die. This may be or not, as I have not had sufficient experience to form an opinion on it; but this I can see, that all the trees from which the branches have been cut have died. The lac insect attacks the tree about the beginning of April, and it is easily perceived by the leaves falling off, and small branches becoming black; the tree has a scrubby appearance. The lac collectors then back away all the branches, and denude the tree of every leaf. This of course kills the tree, and there are great numbers of trees in this forest that have never thrown out a branch or a leaf since the lac was collected last year, and are now only fit to make indifferent charcoal.

26. No. 20 (Meer Mahomed Khan's forest) is reported to have been closed for three years. As a path is the only division between this and Meer Nusseer Khan's forest, I need not point out the impossibility of keeping the cattle out while they are allowed to graze in Meer Nusseer Khan's forest, and the forests are nearly both equally eaten bare.

27. This forest, although it has been closed up for three years, shows an equally ruinous and decaying state, for one-third of the forest trees are lying on the ground, and no attempt has apparently been made to clear the ground of them, or to turn them to any purpose by selling the wood. I have set about clearing this forest, and opening the old watercourses into both.

28. I strongly recommend that these two forests be strictly closed, the old nullas for watering the forest to be re-opened, breaches in the boundary wall to be stopped up with Babool hedges, and all cultivators excluded.

29. No. 21 (the Katra forest), on the left bank of the Fullailee, has some good timber in it, but little underwood; it has been closed two years.

30. With this forest I bring to a conclusion my description of the Middle Sind forests. It is little use descanting on the short-sighted policy that has led to the ruined state in which they now are; as we know what has caused the ruin, the remedy is plain and evident.

31. The forests I have mentioned underneath, being those we ought strictly to preserve, must be cleared of cultivators, graziers, wood-cutters, and lac collectors; they must be enclosed with fences, and an increase made to the number of peons.

The forests I propose strictly to enclose are as follows:—

1. No. 4, Marree, left bank.
2. No. 10, Kanote, left bank.
3. Nos. 19 and 20, Meeanee (two), left bank.
1. No. 6, Noorpoor Bootta, right bank.
2. No. 11, Oonerpoor, right bank.
3. No. 16, Gug or Pettara, right bank.

32. The rest of the forests I propose to keep as they now are until I can have an interview with the Commissioner, to determine what quantity of wood it is necessary to keep in Sind, which forests are to be given up, and which are to be resumed.

33. I have not let the forests off this year, as, on inspecting them, I at once perceived that a new system must be commenced, and that letting them out would interfere with closing the forests I might think absolutely necessary. The produce of the forests is being collected by the Karkoons, and when it is determined what forests are to be let on leases, they can be put up to auction. I propose a system of moving the forest Karkoons yearly, as I think a long residence in one place not advisable; and by moving I will make every Karkoon report on the state of the forests he takes charge of, and inform me of any damage done. This, with one Native inspector, and the yearly circuit of the Forest Ranger and his Deputy, will keep the forests under constant surveillance.

34. I think it indispensable that I should have a trustworthy Native to send about the forests, to report whether my orders are carried out. I cannot trust the Karkoons, for on my way up the river in November last I ordered the trees to be felled on the banks of the river when they were being washed away: on my return I found the duty most negligently performed, and notwithstanding I fined some of the Karkoons, and ordered the duty to be more carefully performed, when unexpectedly to them I sent the Deputy Ranger up, he found my orders had not been obeyed,—the hot season having set in, the Karkoons imagined nobody would be sent up. I could also beneficially employ a respectable Native inspector to overlook the two office Moonshees, when not otherwise employed.

35. I have now the unpleasant duty of bringing to your notice the scarcity of wood there is at present in the forests, and without the plans I propose to adopt in the report are carried out, the probable utter failure, in two or three years, not only of large wood, adapted for the Engineer, Ordnance, and Indus Flotilla Departments, but also small wood, adapted for fuel for steamers running on the river.

36. For although the Tamarisk is a quick growing bush when well sup-

plied with water, it will hardly grow, and only in a stunted and useless manner, if deprived of it.

37. The cultivators having got permission to cultivate land in the forests, have never imagined that they were only to cultivate the land given over to them; but supposing a Zemindar got permission to cultivate 700 beegas, he cleared it, and next year did not cultivate 100 beegas of this, but cleared 100 beegas more of forest land, and so on until he had cleared nearly all the forests. For instance in the Hoosree Baila, below Hyderabad, there has been permission given to cultivate 750 beegas. This forest is cleared of trees, except a belt round the boundary, but some of the land has not been cultivated for four or five years. In January 1850 there appears to have been a kind of settlement, as the Deputy Ranger writes by Dr. Stocks' direction to Captain Rathborne, and sends him a list of land given up for cultivation in the Sind forests. The total is 9,920 jeerbs. I beg to suggest that the Collectors be called upon to send in lists of the land given over for cultivation in the different districts, as I believe no land has been given up without regular permission.

38. I request your sanction to an order I have given to the Karkoons, that when the land given over to cultivators has been allowed to lie so long fallow as to have now on it wood nearly fit for fuel, they are not to be allowed to clear it again.

39. The rough chart sent with this report is to show the positions of the forests, and to give an idea of the quantity of timber compared with the land under cultivation. From the smallness of the scale, there are many clumps of trees where I have placed cultivation, and patches of cultivation where I have placed trees.

40. The tabular statement of the quantity of wood land now left, compared with what there was in 1847, is only intended as an approximate estimate, framed by myself and the Deputy Forest Ranger.

41. The estimate of the quantity of wood for fuel for the Indus Flotilla is from special reports sent in by the Karkoons, and from what I saw I consider it nearly correct.

42. The quantity of wood supplied for the Indus Flotilla last year was 190,000 maunds. My estimate of Tamarisk wood left is 312,000, which is not sufficient for two years' consumption. This state of affairs is alarming, as the traffic on the river is increasing; but I have no doubt, if active measures are taken, closing some of the best forests, promoting the growth of underwood by opening the old canals, and properly watering the forests, the difficulty may be got over. The forests in the Nowshera districts are supplying large quantities of firewood at present, and are not included in this estimate.

43. I think it would be advisable for me to explain my views on the beforementioned subjects in person. I will therefore, with your permission, proceed to Kurrachee, taking the office with me, immediately I am relieved from my duties in the Indus Flotilla.

(Signed) B. HAMILTON, Lieutenant I. N.,
Forest Ranger in Sind.

Ranger's Office, Kotree, 20th May 1854.

Estimate of the Quantity of Land now under Timber in the Forests of Middle Sind, compared with what there was in 1847 under Colonel SCOTT.

Management,— Under Colonel Scott, 1847.				Under Lieutenant Hamilton, 1854.		
Names of Forests.	Total Area, Acres.	Wood.	Cultivated and Waste Land.	Wood.	Cultivated and Waste Land.	Remarks.
Nassree	1,177	1,125	52	392	785	Water entirely cut off by the cultivators, and trees dying rapidly ; no underwood.
Othud (or Mudh)	2,594	2,167	427	1,200	1,394	Some thousands of young Bhawn dying for want of water ; no underwood, for want of water.
Mehrabpoor.....	1,145	260	885	400	745	Three detached Moharees.
Marree.....	8,132	6,219	1,913	2,500	5,632	Very few large trees in this large tract, and many allowed by Pessoo Mull to be destroyed by the grazing.
Rannah	2,456	587	1,869	1,000	1,456	Part very old Babool, part young Bhawn and Babool.
Kettee.....	737	428	309	348	389	
Bhanote	398	300	98	300	98	
Khanote	6,768	6,067	701	2,000	4,768	Water entirely cut off, and large trees dying for want of it.
Khebranee	1,636	732	904	120	1,516	There is little left of this forest, except a row of trees round the boundaries.
Shekaot	4,877	1,420	3,457	400	4,477	No underwood, but fine young timber.
Jakree.....	1,707	1,321	386	1,400	307	Very little large timber, mostly young Bhawn and Tamarisk.
Kettee or Kathree	4,610	4,320	290	1,500	3,110	Timber in small patches.
Gullee	731	687	44	250	481	Part of this forest washed away.
Goondee	167	167	....	20	147	Quite destroyed.
Meer Mahomed	684	341	343	200	484	Very little underwood ; trees rapidly dying.

Under Colonel Scott.				Under Lieutenant Hamilton.		
Names of Forests.	Total Area, Acres.	Wood.	Cultivated and Waste Land.	Wood.	Cultivated and Waste Land.	Remarks.
Meer Nusseer Khan	3,453	1,512	1,941	600	2,853	Very little underwood; trees rapidly dying.
Katra	737	428	309	428	309	Ditto ditto ditto.
Right Bank.						
Noorpoor Bootta.....	7,203	1,920	5,283	1,500	5,703	Some very fine timber, but cultivators destroying the forest.
Majenda	673	215	458	460	213	Wood for fuel for steamers; no good wood in it.
Meysah Gote	2,000	2,000	....	500	1,500	Some fine timber in this, and new land thrown up by the river; young Babool.
Pettara.....	2,451	2,000	451	2,000	451	
Total..	54,336	34,216	20,120	17,518	36,818	

(Signed) B. HAMILTON, Lieutenant I. N.,
Forest Ranger in Sind.

Ranger's Office, Kotree, 20th May 1854.

(True copies)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX D.

No. 148 of 1854.

To J. N. Rose, Esq.,

Collector of Tanna.

Bulsar, 9th February 1854.

Sir,—As I have lately concluded a tour through most of the wooded districts of your Collectorate, and had an opportunity of observing the working of the forest and jungle-fee system, I take this early occasion to offer some suggestions on the subject, in order that these may be fully considered by yourself, and the various authorities whom you may see fit to consult, in the considerable interval which has yet to elapse up to the 1st October, the period at which the fee farms for 1854-55 will commence.

The first suggestion which I have to offer regards the advisability of abolishing the privilege of cutting Aeen timber for "keeta," or firewood. At present, it is cut and wasted in very large quantities, particularly in the Sunjan and Mahim Talookas.

In fact, in many of the villages there is no longer any left to cut.

The complaints of the villagers are loud and general, that the firewood cutters, disregarding the prohibition to cut in the village reserves, destroy the best trees kept for the "rab" material of the ryots, and choosing merely the thicker part of the stem, which fits their cart, leave the remainder to rot in the forest. This I have repeatedly myself seen.

Several of the forest revenue officers have expressed their opinion that no measure short of the prohibition of exporting Aeen for "keeta" or firewood will meet the necessity of the case.

The matter is one to be maturely weighed, as, in case of such a prohibition being made known, we must be prepared for a great outcry on the part of the northern wood merchants at Sowta, Oomergaum, Danoo, &c., as these persons export the Aeen in large quantities for the supply of Guzerat and Kattywar.

These merchants, in November 1851, shipped to Bombay several boat-loads

of Warlees (the wild population of those parts) from the back jungles, with the view of coercing the Government into an abolition of the forest fees established in that year.

The second suggestion is one which I offer as one rather to be kept in view for future action than to be at present put in force, unless the different authorities to be consulted may hold another opinion.

I mean the propriety of removing the woods Aeen and Kheir, used for building purposes, from the second into the first class.*

This would make the largest class of logs of these woods subject to a fee of 12 annas instead of 6 annas, as at present.†

I observe that one small class cart, of two bullocks, conveys one of these large logs, the estimated value whereof at Munnor, in Sowta, I take to be Rs. 3-8-0, and the value in the forest about Rs. 1-12-0. These estimates, however, I deem open to correction. They may be considered along with the other parts of this subject, in the careful review which I propose that these suggestions should have.

The third suggestion I beg respectfully to offer is, that the cart-fee in the Sunjan Talooka, which is at present divided into three classes, be reduced to two.

The first class, or two rupee fee, commences with November; the second class, or Rs. 1-8-0 fee, with January; and the third class, or one rupee fee, with February. It is this latter which I suggest for abolition; but I would not persevere in offering this suggestion in case that the authorities may deem it to involve any breach of the contract under which the cart-fee was established in December 1851.

The fourth suggestion offered is, that the flowers of the Mowra tree be subject to an impost, levied on the same principle as that for Daetee flowers, and other raw products of the jungles.

This proposal I make with some diffidence, in the idea that it may be deemed likely to interfere with the revenue derived from spirit licenses.

As, however, it is probable that active competition will tend to keep this branch of revenue at its former standard, while the forest fee must eventually fall on the consumers, and thus some check (however slight) be given to the excessive use of distilled spirits among the Native population, I venture to make the proposal.

The fifth suggestion is, that measures be taken for commuting into a money remission, or otherwise, the present exemption which the ryots of Bassein and

* This was done in August 1856.—A. G.

† The rate was, in August 1856, made Rs. 1 throughout on each cart of building-timber.

the Agasee Mahal enjoy from fee on firewood imported seaward from Kolwan and elsewhere; also on sugar-mill blocks imported from out-lying Talookas, as these are made from Koosumb, a valuable and scarce timber. The privilege which these Bassein sugar-makers enjoy is, as I have had occasion to see, grossly abused. Not only are quantities of building wood (thus obtained without the usual license) imported as keeta or firewood, but the quantity passed appears to me, as well as to others, to be considerably beyond that which can be fairly consumed in the localities to which it is carried.

In fact, the presumption is that much of it finds its way to Bombay free of duty.

While throwing out for mature consideration these suggestions on the subject of fees, I take this occasion to state that it were most desirable that by some arrangement of exchange or otherwise we could succeed in removing the great impediment to our timber traffic caused by the projection of a corner of the Jowar Raja's detached Purguna Goonjan, on the line of the timber road to Sowta bunder.

The farmer would, I have reason to believe, but for the existence of this heavy impost (Rs. 2-8-0 for eight months on each cart coming from our own districts, but necessarily passing this chowkee), give an addition of Rs. 12,000 to the present amount of his farm.

Failing the success of any project of exchange or commutation which may be made, I would recommend that a retaliatory duty, to a similar amount, be fixed on all carts coming from the Raja's territory to our bunders. This taxation on our jungle produce, while the Raja's is permitted to pass free, is viewed by the Natives rather as an acknowledgment of his supremacy in the forest districts than as the result of enlightened policy on the part of the British Government.

This part of the subject, also, I earnestly recommend to the consideration of the several authorities who may be consulted in the suggestions which I have now brought forward.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) A. GIBSON,

Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX E.

No. 42. *General Summary of Gross and Nett Receipts from Teak and Jungle Timber for* 1853-54.

Gross Jumma from Teak				Rs.	53,016	15	11
Total expenditure on ditto, including Khotes' shares, and excess expended without return on Chinchae, Malwan, and Neara (vide No. 32) ..	18,257	8	5				
					34,857	13	6
Gross Jumma of jungle timber fees	35,815	9	6				
Deduct expenses	689	9	5				
					35,126	0	1
Add receipts from fallen and stolen Teakwood, and Government share of fines				Rs.	1,055	1	6
				Rs.	71,038	15	1
Deduct the following items :—							
1. Nett return from Alegaum grass, as not being a forest receipt	Rs. 340	12	2				
2. Pay of foresters and Karkoons, twelve months, at Rs. 264-8-0 (those for Bheemthuree have been already deducted,—vide No. 18)	3,174	0	0				
3. Salary and travelling allowance of the Conservator for twelve months, viz. 1st May 1853 to 1st May 1854, as per his abstracts	9,343	5	0				
					12,858	1	2
Total of nett return, Company's Rupees Fifty-eight thousand One hundred and eighty, Annas thirteen, and Pies eleven.....				Rs.	58,180	13	11

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

Hewra, 23rd August 1854.

REPORT FOR 1854-55.

REPORT FOR 1854-55.

In the reports of former years I generally gave some detail of the transactions in the different forests which I had visited, or in which I had carried on work during the season.

2. As, however, this plan caused the account of proceedings to be more than sufficiently lengthy, and as, moreover, it embraced matters now disposed of by a new channel of audit, I mean on this occasion to confine myself to a more general view of forest matters, so as to allow of its embracing the greater extent of country which I have this year been enabled to traverse.

3. Having early in October taken up in Bombay the management and details of the timber depôt, then and still under the immediate agency of Mr. Williams, who has hitherto carried on the work entirely to my satisfaction, I on the 23rd October proceeded to fulfil the intention which I announced in 1853, of visiting Malabar, in order to review the present establishments of the Southern Timber Branch, which had not been visited since its modification on the departure of Captain Williams.

4. After transacting business at Malwan, Sudasheoghur, Mangalore, and other ports on my way down, I visited Calicut and Ponany in November, having been accompanied from Sudasheoghur by Mr. Poulton, in charge of the Southern Agency.

5. We found that, owing to causes which have been elsewhere noticed, the scarcity of superior Teak timber for naval purposes was very great. In fact, it was not obtainable; and as this scarcity seems likely (unless immediate measures be taken) to be of very long continuance, I beg respectfully once more to bring it to the notice of the authorities, in the view of hastening the remedial measures now in contemplation, these being of vital importance to the efficiency of the naval establishments in Bombay.

JUNGLE-WOOD IN MALABAR.

6. Of Naneh or Bentek the supply of large wood was good, and we obtained a quantity, which was speedily brought to use in the Dockyard.

7. Of large Aeen the supply is very limited, and the price very high; but of this wood, as well as of Erool or Jamba, there is in the Canara forests an extensive supply, if it be not, as is too often the case, sacrificed for the miserable results of koomree or destructive cultivation.

POON SPARS

8. Of the first class were not procurable, owing, apparently, to the exhaustion of the jungles nearest to the coast, and probably, also, to the continued extension of the cultivation above mentioned.

It were, however, more in place to speak of Poon spars under the head of Canara, for it is rather from the inland forests there, backed as these are by those of Coorg to the east, that the supply is principally drawn.

9. On my way from the Mysore border to Sircee I happened to see in more than one place immense spars of Poon standing as trees, but scorched, burned up, and rendered useless.

As in another part of this report I will have more to say of the destruction of forest by burning, I need not enlarge on the subject here.

NILUMBOOR OR ERNAAD FOREST.

10. I took advantage of the opportunity offered by my visit to Malabar to inspect this plantation, which, at different periods, dating from about sixteen years ago, had been formed by the Collector of Malabar, Mr. Conolly, on a tract of land erst forest, but then waste, which he had purchased on account of Government for the purpose of planting.

The number of trees here is said to be about four hundred thousand, of ages varying from sixteen to four years.

Advantage has been taken of the proximity of the Nilumboor river with a view to future operations.

The locality is about forty-eight miles inland from Calicut, near to the short or bridle-road to the Neilgherry Hills.

The success which has hitherto attended the measure appears to be complete.

The trees run up with a straight and clear stem, and some have already reached the height of thirty-five feet, with a circumference of from eighteen to twenty-four inches below.

They are at present thickly planted, in order to secure a straight stem, and for mutual protection from the winds.

They will be gradually thinned out at stated intervals, and it may be expected that finally about one hundred thousand trees will have room enough left to attain a full size.

11. The experiment is doubly valuable,—not only for the supply of building

material which will be available some seventy years hence, but also as an example which may hereafter be followed by the Native population of Malabar, who, as is the case in other parts of India, have hitherto attended only to the destruction of this useful tree, leaving its natural reproduction subject to all sorts of drawbacks, such as burning, hacking, &c.,—insomuch that many provinces formerly abounding in Teakwood are now bare.

12. It may be, also, that this grand and successful experiment of Mr. Conolly will be taken up by some of the numerous coffee-planters now settled in Malabar.

COMMON WOOD AS FIREWOOD AND CHARCOAL IN MALABAR.

13. I may here, in passing, allude to the importance of keeping up a source of supply for both of these products in Malabar, seeing that the charcoal used in the extensive Ironworks at Beypore has (if I am rightly informed) risen in price by upwards of one hundred per cent. within the last few years, so that it does not appear improbable that in the course of time the cost of the chief smelting material—charcoal—will be so great as to preclude the works being carried on to a profit.

LAND JOURNEY FROM MALABAR TO THE BELGAUM COLLECTORATE OF THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

14. Of the first portion of this tour I need say little, as it involved a journey through a cultivated country, containing just enough forest to be applied to economical and occasional commercial purposes.

15. I will only advert to the Cossergode creek, which, as affording an outlet for much of the timber produced below the Coorg Ghauts, may fitly be one of the useful stations for a Conservator of the Madras forests, in case such an officer should be employed in the general superintendence of these.

16. That such a functionary might be employed with advantage to the country, if not with immediate profit to the Government, seems probable, from the great extent of forest still remaining on both sides of the peninsula, and from the daily growing demand for timber in railways, waterworks, &c.

YELLAPOOR TALOOKA, MOOGUDDA AND KEERWUTTEE FORESTS.

17. Leaving Sircee, I passed into the Yellapoor Talooka by Soonda. From thence to Munchikerry (twenty miles) I travelled through a forest composed almost wholly of Yerool or Jamba, and it struck me that as this wood is in great demand for railway sleepers, advantage might be taken of the

full supply to be obtained here, the more so as the material could be transported by means of the made road which runs through the forest either to Coompta or the adjacent ports near the Gungawullee river.

18. I was concerned to observe that the destruction of this forest by burning for cultivation was in several places, particularly near to Munchikerry, considerable.

19. From Yellapoor I proceeded east by the Dharwar road to Keerwuttee, where an extensive felling and preparation of crooks for our Dockyard had taken place this year, under my direction, and with the immediate agency of Mr. Poulton.

These I examined in detail, as they lay in the forest; and though I could have wished that the party in immediate superintendence of the work had been more conversant with the choice of timber fit for crooks, yet I believe that most or all of those cut will be found useful for naval purposes.*

20. I noticed, while inspecting the forest in the Keerwuttee line, that south of it and of Yellapoor there is little or no Teak above the Ghauts in North Canara, except in the eastern skirts of the jungle, where it breaks into the plains of the Hungul Talooka of Dharwar.

Here stunted Teak is found in large quantities south of Moondagode, &c. as I had an opportunity of seeing in my journey of 1845-46.

To the north of the line of the Dharwar road from Sircee it is one of the most common trees in the forest.

JOURNEY BY KEERWUTTEE, TUTTIHULLA, BAGWATTEE, AND SAMBRANEE, TO DANDELLE.

21. From Keerwuttee I followed a path through the jungle to Tuttihulla. I had occasion to see that the Teak here is well preserved, and little damaged by cultivation.

22. I regretted that before leaving this part of the country I was unable to find my way (by reason of the difficulty of the intervening country) from Soonda to Moogudda, the locality where the Gungawullee river falls over the Ghauts, and where Mr. Poulton some years ago found a patch of good old Teak forest, which has been partly worked during the past season for the Naval Department, and has affords a few "superiors,"—*i. e.* logs of upwards of eight khundies, and having a length of above forty feet.

These are calculated for kelsons, &c. of ships of the line.

There would have been a larger supply than three (the number furnished),

* Many have since been received at Bombay, and pronounced to be excellent.

but the contractors had cut them down for the convenience of carriage ere measures could be taken to prevent their doing so.

There seems reason to believe that in the present season we may, by taking early precautions, get twenty or more.

23. Leaving Tuttihulla, I proceeded through the forest by Bagwattee to Sambranee.

From what I saw between these two stations, I reported, in letter dated 8th January 1855 to the Military Board, the fearful destruction of Teak and other large timber which had taken place in this quarter.

I reported the same to the Collector of Canara in letter No. 24, under the same date.

I had been prepared by the reports of Captain W. C. Anderson, Superintendent of our Southern Survey (who frequently favours me with valuable notices on forest matters), to meet with destruction here, but I could hardly have expected to find it so reckless and extensive, and this on the border of a country destitute of trees, as most of our eastern or Dharwar districts are, and also after the very stringent orders which had been issued by the Collector of Canara upwards of seven years ago on the subject of non-cultivation where Teak grows.

24. Passing on, I crossed the forest by a jungle path from east to west to Dandelle, and from thence through the centre of the jungle by Hureegalee, where I saw a good deal of old Teak, and a great quantity of young and promising trees. Of the former a quantity had been cut for the public establishments at Belgaum and Dharwar.

25. As I have now been for five seasons through this Soonda forest in different directions, I am able, for the information of my successor, or of other parties concerned, to give some detail of the villages in the bounds of which Teak grows in any quantity.

In framing this list, I have been assisted by the Local Conservator, who seems a sufficiently active young man, and well up to his work.

The best villages are,—

Sambranee Mangnee.

Witnol.	Weencholee.
Bohumhully.	Koljee.
Gootly.	Jaumgay.
Arnere.	Amgaum.

Woolvee Mangnee.

Woolvee.	Gond.
Aoorlee.	Nursoor.

Soopeh Mangnee.

Bamanya.	Beerambal.	Nugguree.
Kulungoday.	Akorday.	Mundoorlee.
Singargaum.	Kondapi.	Hureegulee.
Donset.	Mawlinga.	Bargoond.

26. At Kondapi and Oosara, on the road from Dandelle to Juggulpait, there was extensive destruction of jungle-timber, by burning forest for cultivation.

27. Altogether, I beg to reiterate the opinion so strongly expressed by Sir George Arthur and other experienced officers in 1845 and 1846, that it were most desirable that this valuable forest could be brought completely under the management of the Bombay authorities.

The Fort St. George authorities are located at much too great a distance to be able to exercise efficient control over it.

FOREST OF THE BEDEE TALOOKA, BELGAUM COLLECTORATE, BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

28. Leaving the districts of the Madras Presidency by the hill of Jeedh, I came down on Koomerdeh, the first village of the Belgaum Collectorate in that direction.

Here and at Gotgeera I remained for several days, viewing the forest in different directions by means of daily excursions.

I noticed what I had already been made acquainted with by Captain Anderson, of the Survey, viz. that the destruction of forest by burning for cultivation had been very great, and that neither Teak, Seesoo, nor Honee (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), the three most valuable woods in the forest, had been spared.

In fact, so rapid had the destruction been since I was here in 1850, that a few more years would suffice to exhaust the forest.

As an example of the injuries done to Teak trees of large size by burning, I may mention that the forest Karkoon employed there this year expended about Rs. 150 merely in cutting down and removing Teak trees killed by burning.

29. If the authorities will refer to my forest report of 1848-49, paragraph 34, it will be seen that I then referred to the destruction of young wood as having taken place subsequent to my visit in 1846-47.

At that time I expressed a hope that the small establishment which I had then located there might, if aided by the revenue and police officers on the spot, suffice to arrest the destruction.

Since that period my attention has frequently been called to the subject by my own agents, and by Captain Anderson; but notwithstanding the various remonstrances I have made on the subject, the work of destruction seems to have proceeded unchecked.

In fact, the Native officers in that quarter appear to be rather leagued with the ryots for the destruction of the forests than to pay any attention to the frequent notices they have received on the subject.

At present, owing to the strong manner in which the subject has been taken up by the Revenue Commissioner Southern Division, there is hope that a check may be put on the practice; but I should fear that this may be merely temporary, unless such injunctions are frequently renewed.

Captain Anderson, also, has taken great pains to repress the progress of destruction.

Of smaller Teak we had a cutting this year near Moodkee, on the Madras border.

A good price was obtained for this wood, as well as for the older wood felled last season.

30. Leaving Bedee, I travelled by Mundghur and Jambootee to the Mangelee Ghaut, which leads down to Waree.

FOREST OF WAREE STATE.

31. On the southern border of Sawunt Waree, where that State abuts on the Goa Territory, I was pleased to find that the belt of tangled and noxious jungle which divided the two countries had been in many places cleared away, and replaced by flourishing cultivation of sugarcane plantations, &c.

32. Time did not admit of my visiting the Teak villages which stretch from Kesree, north of the range of hills immediately below the Ghauts, to Kulsolee and its vicinity; but I saw a good deal of that in the immediate neighbourhood of Waree, the capital.

I found the wood in tolerable preservation; but, owing to the want of trimming, the trees are growing up somewhat bushy, and comparatively worthless.

For this reason, I proposed to begin this year a regular course of trimming, which proposal having been sanctioned by Government and the Chief Engineer, the work will be immediately set in hand.

33. Leaving Waree by the route of Koodal, and the creek dividing the British districts from those of Waree, I came to Pendoor, and from thence, *viâ* Amroos, to the forest of Malwan Talooka.

FOREST AT MAUN, KANDULGAUM, SEEDHGHUR, BEEROWNDIA, &c. OF MALWAN TALOOKA.

34. Having in former reports described that of Kandulgaum, Maun, and the vicinity, I need not say much regarding them now, but will only observe that, generally speaking, their state of preservation is good; but in some places, especially at Kandulgaum, we shall require to clear the trees from the underwood growth, which chokes them.

However, as this little piece of forest has given us a good profit within the last seven years, the expense can without difficulty be incurred.

35. From Kandulgaum I journeyed to the fort of Seedhghur, situated in a difficult country, surrounded by hills, and nearly central between Malwan and Ramghur.

My attention had been directed by Mr. Spooner, Collector of Rutnagherry, to a piece of forest there, which, being situated in the fort "ghera," was undoubtedly the property of Government.

I had it examined by my people while I pitched below, as I was then suffering from lameness.

The report given by them was favourable, being to the effect that there were several thousand flourishing trees.

36. From Seedhghur I travelled east by the Waree villages Jeewinda and Argoonda, towards Beerowndia, a village situated under the Ghauts east of Ashia Mutt, and containing, as do the villages in the vicinity, a considerable quantity of Teak forest.

I had to notice great destruction of young plants and shoots there, which damage has since then been duly dealt with by the Police Amuldar of the Talooka.

37. It is only since last season (November I think) that our contingent fund has admitted of any paid foresters being kept up in this Talooka, where they are much required.

As the Talooka is extensive, there are now two necessary, owing to the scattered nature of the forest, of the existence of a considerable part of which we were till lately not aware.

38. The Komavisdar has been able to arrange for the granting of conservation agreements to Khotes on the one-third share principle, so that by this measure, as well as by the keeping up of forest, we are likely to have a continued supply of growing wood, applicable to the wants of the people.

39. The number of agreements taken is fifty-two. Foresters are especially required, even when agreements exist, in the view of watching the proceedings of the Khotes, and seeing that the power placed in their hands is not used for the destruction of young wood, either by burning or otherwise.

40. I now turned north, by Kurkool, where we left the Teak forest, and met with only scanty copses of jungle-wood, till we approached the late Bhowrekur's villages, near to Raeputtun.

41. I had seen the Teak which is found scattered in the lower part of the Dangeh Mahal, nearer the forest, when I travelled with Major Wingate in 1850.

42. The late Collector, Mr. Coles, had directed my attention to the Teak and other forest found in the villages sequestered from the joint dominion of the Vishalghur Chief after the Kolapore Bund of 1845, and I accordingly proceeded north by Sakurpa.

I did not find, however, that there is much building wood, and Teak is less extensively spread there than I had expected.

43. While at Sakurpa, I had an opportunity of conferring with Mr. D'Oyly, the settlement officer (who had come from Rutnagherry to meet me), on the question of forest and grass preserves, touching which in this Collectorate several references had been made to me by Government since 1853.

I believe that Mr. D'Oyly has since this conference submitted to Government a memorandum embracing our joint view of the subject, as there seemed to be no difference of opinion between us.

44. From hence I moved north by Sungumeshwur and Sawurda, to Chiploon, finding nothing of forest in this tract worthy of any remark.

At and in the vicinity of Sawurda there is a sprinkling of Teak near some of the villages, but still small, and the growth apparently of not more than three years.

FOREST OF PALGHUR, AND OTHER PARTS OF SEVERNDROOG TALOOKA.

45. As I had received notice of extensive injury having been done to the forest of several villages in this quarter, I proceeded in the direction of Palghur fort, as being that in which I had the chance of seeing the largest portion of the young forest.

46. I found that generally it is only within the last three or four years, *i. e.* since the date of the proclamation of 1851, that the young trees have been allowed to grow, instead of being annually cut off.

There is now a show of numerous young trees on most of the hills, rising with regularity, as if they had been lately planted.

47. I have been able to arrange since November last for the entertainment of a second forester in this Talooka, as the attention of one is fully occupied with the care of the ten villages in the old Government preserve.

48. In the villages around Palghur fort, the forest appears to have been formerly very extensive; and from documents now in the Peshwa's Duftur, which I have lately seen, it would appear to have been all reserved as a royalty for the use of the State, and especially of the armed vessels kept up at Severndroog.

49. Under a continuation of the present system of preservation it will again, in the course of years, afford a large supply, as the rugged nature of the country—a succession of steep hills, divided by deep valleys—much favours the growth of trees.

The documents above alluded to as being in the Peshwa's Duftur show that there has been a gradual and extensive usurpation of the rights of the State in the forest here.

50. It is to be regretted that the nature of the evidence in the case of plunder above mentioned did not allow of the confirmation by the Collector of the sentence awarded by his Assistant, Mr. B. Boswell; as the example made would have had great effect in the prevention of future depredation.

As yet, few or none of the Khotes in this Talooka have taken advantage of our share agreement system, which is rather to be wondered at, seeing that in the Talookas of Rutnagherry and Malwan numbers of agreements have been voluntarily given.

51. I anticipate, however, (grounding my belief on the conversations I had with numerous Khotes,) that in the course of another year they will follow the example set by their brethren in the south.

FOREST IN THE SOUTHERN TALOOKAS OF TANNA COLLECTORATE, viz. RYGHUR, RAJPOOREE, AND ALIBAGH.

52. Travelling by the Latwun Khind, I viewed a good many of the plantations in the Tureel and Yenereh Tuppas, and found their state to be on the whole satisfactory.

53. A good deal of damage has in some places been done, chiefly (it is believed) through the agency of the numerous family of Deshmooks resident in that quarter, and who, far from lending their aid to the officers of Government, have done their best to obstruct conservative measures.

54. We have now for the last five years had regular cuttings in one or two of the villages of this quarter every year, and the progress which the forest makes, under a system of annual trimming to the extent of about four times the number of trees felled, is such as to warrant the hope that we can thus keep up a continual rotation of felling.

55. This season, in Moomoorsee and its vicinity, we were able to provide

for the Naval Department a number of third and fourth class crooks and boat timbers at a very moderate cost.

56. The forest on the north side of the Savitree river valley, chiefly situated in the Beerwaree Mahal, I could not this year turn aside to examine, but I believe it to be in a fair state of progress, and we have at length succeeded in getting several of the most influential Khotes, who had offered the greatest opposition to conservation measures, based on the share principle, to come in to terms of their own accord, desiring to have agreements, which have accordingly been made.

57. Owing to the isolated position of the forest pieces here, their general distance from the coast, and the number of hills by which the villages of the Mahal are shut in, export towards the coast is expensive; but for a source of supply to Malcolm Peth and its vicinity the situation is good.

58. In the Soobha division of the Talooka we had this year an extensive cutting and trimming at Dasgaum, where the hills are now covered with promising young wood.

This cutting, on account of the proximity of the made road, realised rates thirty-five per cent. in advance of those obtained in most of the other forests.

59. From Dasgaum I passed along by the base of the hills which encircle and shoulder the fort of Ryghur towards Borrowsee and Pallusgaum, at both of which places we had cuttings this year, but the sales were made at a lower figure than I should have been willing to agree to had I been on the spot.

60. In the course of this round I had occasion to observe the promising Teak forest at Wurpaleh village, regarding which I deem it most desirable that some arrangement should be made between the parties long in contention.

They are severally the Wutundar Khote, the Pledgee Khote, and another branch of his family.

My letter of 17th December 1851, and a subsequent one in 1853 or 1854, addressed to the Collector of Tanna (with the view of their being submitted to higher authority), will have put the Government in possession of the particulars of this peculiar and rather important case.

Probably the best method in the end might be that at first recommended by me, viz. for Government to pay off the mortgage, and take the village with its forest piece into direct management.

61. In the Nizampore Mahal, which I next reached, the young forest is promising, and might, by reason of the undulating nature of the ground, have been considerably more so, but for the crooked practice of the local Police Amuldar, who does not seem to have exerted himself as he ought to have done for the interests of Government in this department. Nay, he rather

appeared anxious to abet unfounded claims, and to shield parties committing injury, in case these happened to be persons of any substance in the district.*

He appears also to have been the chief instrument in attempting to alienate from Government a piece of good forest at Patnoos, in the bounds of this Mahal.

However, as the arrangement which he proposed has not been finally sanctioned, I have hopes that we may yet be able to recover the property, which appears to have been alienated on very one-sided and *ex parte* evidence.

As the officer above mentioned is (I have been informed) now under suspension, pending inquiry into a charge of graver complexion, I do not intend to follow up his case further.

PATNOOS, NIZAMPORE MAHAL.

62. Here we had a pretty extensive cutting of rafter and crooked timber, the latter for the use of the Dockyard.

The very moderate rates at which the latter could otherwise have been furnished have been somewhat enhanced (*i. e.* the nett profit or signorage has been lessened) by the untoward accident of the wreck of a boat containing the material. We lost about one hundred out of four hundred and seventy crooks.

The young forest is very promising at Patnoos, and the nature of the country is favourable for the growth of forest; while the vicinity to the Heerdee Ghaut renders the market at Poona the most convenient and profitable one.

CHIKULGAUM AND PEELOOSEE, NAGOTNA MAHAL.

63. A moderate cutting and trimming here; some crooks also obtained.

In this Nagotna Mahal there is now such a quantity of young forest (Teak) that no obstacle will be found to occur to a regular cutting taking place every year in one or more villages, taking the average number of rafters cut at five thousand, while the number of young trees trimmed is twenty thousand, more or less.

On this plan there need be no fear of exhaustion of forest.

RAJPOOREE TALOOKA.

64. Passing through this Talooka on my way to Alibagh, I saw that the forest at Wawa and other places was in a good state, and that the extensive trimmings made here for several years begin to tell on the appearance of the trees.

* From what I observed in a tour made in December 1856, this officer now gives every attention to the forest. I feel happy to have this opportunity of reporting favourably regarding him.

65. We had one cutting in the Beesa Khind, and near it, which afforded the usual number of poles, which have been sold, with the exception of two thousand five hundred, reserved for the partial fulfilment of the Sind indent in November next.

All the khotee villages in this Talooka have been secured by agreement.

CHOWRA, BELOOSEE, AND BAMUN TUPPAS, OF ALIBAGH.

66. At several of these places I examined the forest in detail. At Chowra the settlement of a boundary dispute of many years' standing, involving a portion of the forest, has put an end to the feud which has long existed there.

From Alibagh we have this year taken about two hundred and fifty second and third class crooks, the profit to Government on which which will, as may be seen from the return, be good.

67. At Bamun Tuppa, and other places in the vicinity, I had received information that a considerable quantity of good wood had been surreptitiously cut, and concealed in the thinnings which took place there under agreement.

I found the information which had reached me to be quite correct.

The parties delinquent have since been dealt with in the usual manner.

68. Whether there may have been complicity or mere carelessness on the part of the Karkoon (who is one of the old Colaba establishment) I could not determine; but I deemed it proper, under the circumstances, to remove him from the place, and transfer him elsewhere.

BHENDY PLANTATIONS AT SAT TAR AND SAKURIA, NEAR ALIBAGH.

69. These have been reformed and re-arranged subsequent to the visit I made in 1854; from which date, also, a Malee was sanctioned for the care of the garden at Sakuria, that of Sat Tar having been given out on the partnership principle. Owing to the late period at which this latter arrangement took place, the shareholder had only the latter part of the rains left for making his arrangements; consequently he was able to plant only a few cuttings to fill the vacant places.

However, I was happy to observe, on the inspection which I made in February last, that the state of the plantation as to enclosure and protection was very much improved.

70. At Sakuria, consequent on the Malee having been entertained from May 1854, the state of the plantation is now very good.

About three thousand young trees are thriving, and making steady progress,—hedging and protection from animals are well attended to; so that,

under a continuance of the present system, a large supply of Bhendy wood will ultimately be available.

Also, the charge for the gardener (Rs. 48 per annum) will not remain entirely a dead weight, inasmuch as at stated periods some return will be realised from the rafters growing on the older trees, which are hollow, and only fit to grow rafters on.

71. Of these old trees, thirty-one, selected as being apparently the soundest, were cut last year for the use of the Grand Arsenal.

After we had incurred the expense of cutting and transport to Bombay, they were rejected as useless.

I have since had them removed to the Timber Depôt, where they will gradually be worked up in making wheel-pieces for common carts.

The expense of cutting these trees, of their freight to Bombay, but not including the fee (Rs. 30) paid for them to the Colaba State, have been nearly defrayed from the price obtained for the refuse, which afforded many good rafters.

Total of charges on them was	Rs.	73	9	10
Return obtained by sales		70	4	0
Loss	Rs.	3	5	10

72. We have had much trouble in repressing destructive cultivation in the forest of this State, but have, on the whole, been pretty successful.

73. The prohibition of firewood export beyond the limits of the Colaba Territory continues in force, as in former years, for the plain reason that this forest is so accessible by land as well as by water, that were export once permitted to Bombay, the whole would be cleared off in the course of a very few years.

TEAK FOREST IN PENN TALOOKA.

74. This I visited in the quarter where it is found thickest, viz. in the valleys which lie under the Meria and other hills towards Jamboolpara.

There is here much good young wood, which, owing to the depth and narrowness of some of the valleys, grows tall and straight.

We had one profitable cutting at the village of Damunee this year.

75. The forest at Wursae, Parla, &c., trimmed in 1846 and subsequent years, could now afford many poles for the permanent line of the electric telegraph; but the expense of carriage inland would necessarily be great; and as the vent of such wood at Bombay for the masts of boats, &c. is at all times steady, we can from time to time cut and export a supply for this purpose.

NEEPHAR, IN PENN TALOOKA.

76. As this piece of forest has been well preserved, and will afford a large supply of ripe wood for the Panwell cart-makers, I intend to have a cutting, chiefly of ripe trees, there this year.

77. Having now for the time finished my tour below the Ghauts, I in the end of March visited the forest of

SINGHUR GHERA, ZILLA POONA.

I had been unable to visit this forest before proceeding to Malabar, owing to the heavy and continued rain which fell early in October 1854.

78. Here we had a cutting of the older sticks, of which there is a large number in the bounds of Khangaum, and a trimming of the younger trees.

The sticks are mostly hollow, and of little value, but on their being cut off they are succeeded by healthy shoots.

The profit last year, though not so great as it usually is where the forest is younger, was still respectable; the nett return having been Rs. 562, after paying all charges.

The trimming of this forest was begun in 1843, so that last season was the thirteenth year of operations carried on at a steady annual profit.

79. I had occasion personally to notice the very great destruction which has taken place by destructive cultivation here within the last year or two.

The same fact has been since noticed and duly commented on by the Revenue Commissioner Southern Division, who has rendered me every assistance and co-operation in carrying out the stringent measures found to be necessary here.

80. The local authorities here seem to have done their best to overturn the sound system which had been introduced in 1846 by the Acting Collector, J. D. Inverarity, Esq., and myself, and the Sunudees who are paid as foresters we have found to be worse than useless.

81. It appears to me strange why persons who thus wilfully betray the trust reposed in them should be continued as hereditary holders of land which they get for special service, and in several communications which I have addressed to the Collector of Poona and the Chief Engineer, I have endeavoured to show that forfeit of wutun is by no means too severe a punishment for trust thus betrayed.

82. I venture to hope that, consequent on these representations, the matter may have been taken up, and that the result may be a punishment to the offending parties which may serve as a warning to others.

The extent of their offence will be apparent on a reference to the letters which I have addressed to their immediate superior, the Collector of Poona, in March, April, and May 1855, in case it should please Government to call for copies of these.

FOREST PIECES IN MOORBAR AND KALLIAN TALOOKA.

83. Early in May, en route to Bombay, I cursorily visited several of these lying between the Naneh Ghaut and the coast, and in the latter part of the same month I inspected the

FOREST UNDER AND NEAR KARNALLA OR FUNNEL HILL.

84. There the young trees are thickly set, chiefly on the east faces of the hills, bounding the valley to the west.

They are in good preservation.

BABOOL PRESERVES ON THE BHEEMA AND MOOTA MOOLA RIVERS.

85. Early in June I repaired to these districts, with the double purpose of viewing the thinning operations which had been carried on at Tek Khamgaum and Kolowree, and of inquiring into certain encroachments reported to have been committed on the forest limits at Khamgaum Boodrook, a village of the same Talooka.

In regard to the former of these objects, I found that the work had been well done, and the results profitable, so that I had no hesitation in expending, from the annual sanction, a sum of Rs. 56-11-8 in clearing the prickly-pear from the kooruns of Manjuree Kolowree. About one-third of this was rooted out, and I have hopes that the extirpation may be completed next hot season.

The growth of this is most destructive to the grass crop, and it may be seen that it is rather an expensive nuisance when Rs. 56 suffice to clear away only one-third of it.

It is not general throughout the preserves, but chiefly in those nearer to Poona, where it is thrown into the river from the clearances of the city, and intercepted in passage down the river during floods by the trees of the preserves.

86. The nett profit of all these Babool preserves for the year, after deducting every expense, including Rs. 432 per annum for keepers, has reached the respectable figure of Rs. 1,068-9-8, being the best return we have yet had since the commencement of conservative measures in 1846.

87. We continue to defer the thinning of the largest of the preserves (Khangaum) until the made road from Patus to Poona shall have been finished, as thus the wood can be carried with more certain profit; and now that it seems probable the rail may very soon traverse this part of the country, there will be no chance of a lagging market for the material. On the contrary, it may be expected that all of the ripe Babool and Bher wood which the kooruns contain will be eagerly sought after and purchased.

88. In the view of this increased demand, and in a full knowledge of the importance of having a supply of public wood ready for the demands which will certainly be made on it, I am doing my best to keep the limits of the preserves entire and intact.

This is not a very easy matter, for the attempts at encroachment are continual.

Thus, in the case of Khamgaum Boodrook, above alluded to, I found that the Koolkurnee and others, taking advantage of the probable absence of records, owing to the village having lapsed to the State only ten years ago, had boldly included in their cultivated holdings a considerable portion of the forest. Fortunately the natural boundary, a deep brook, is one which cannot be destroyed, and I have reason to believe that by the exertions of Captain Francis and his subordinates we shall regain the ground which was thus surreptitiously wrested from the State.

On inspecting the map as made by the Turum of the late Lieutenant Nash, under whose unders the measurement took place, it would appear that he must have been in collusion with the depredators.

89. In regard to the ancient koorun of Pargaum, and the large quantity of wood which appears to have been allowed to be appropriated by the influential Native who rents the cultivated part of the land, I regret to say that I have yet received no notice of any inquiry having been made consequent on the representation to the Collector of Poona, concurred in by Captain Francis, and bearing date 13th October 1853, No. 731.

BABOOL PRESERVES ON THE BHEEMA RIVER, IN THE AHMEDNUGGUR COLLECTORATE.

90. In these Babool Preserves we have not yet had any regular cuttings, but a thinning took place in a part of that of Allegaum last season.

91. Heretofore, in these kooruns considerable loss has apparently been caused by the encroachments of cultivators; but under the efficient assistance and co-operation now afforded us by the Collector of Ahmednuggur, there seems every reason for thinking that in the course of the present year these

preserves will be in a satisfactory state as to the integrity of their bounds, and the preservation of the wood.

92. In paragraph 16 of my report of last year I alluded to the difficulties which I had met with in the sale of the grass of the Nuggur Division of preserves, and stated that by the help of my own agents there seems a prospect that the grass may be finally sold for the season at a figure fully equal to that of last year.

In this I was not mistaken, for finally, by the agency of my own Karkoon, and the efficient assistance rendered by the neighbouring Komavisdar of Bheemthuree, in the Poona Zilla, we realised a profit of Rs. 186 over that of 1853.

Consequent on this, Government were pleased to direct a gratuity of Rs. 20 to be paid to the Karkoon. (Vide order in Council 21st May 1855, No. 2167.)

In my letter of 4th October 1854 to the Military Board, I had expressed my opinion that the local officers, particularly the Mahalkuree of Kolgaum, had not done their best to forward the interests of Government.

93. The sales this year on the Poona side of the river realised an advance of Rs. 557-4-0 over those obtained last year, thus giving an increase in each of the two years, the advance of 1854 over that of 1853 having been Rs. 534.

94. On the Ahmednuggur side of the river the sales of the grass have realised an advance over those of last year of Rs. 25, and the amount would have been greater but for the operation of other causes,—a chief one of which is the great distance of the Police station of Kolgaum from the main kooruns, and the consequent trouble of bringing up for punishment the band of depredators who did serious injury to the grazing at Allegaum early in the season. The subject is still under reference.

95. With this visit to the eastern preserves I closed my more extensive forest excursions for the season, and had then some leisure to bring together results, and wind up the works carried on in the different forests since August 1854.

To several of these I have already had occasion to allude in the detail of my journey from Malabar northward.

96. Of others, which could not find a place in that list, I will now speak.

TEAK AND JAMBOOL PRESERVES IN WESTERN PART OF AHMEDNUGGUR COLLECTORATE.

97. In these no active forest operations, with exception of a small cutting in the Dindoree Purguna. I here allude to them only for the purpose of stating that consequent on the decision of the Revenue Commissioner Southern Division, and of Government (vide order in Council 21st March 1855,

No. 1205), followed up, as these decisions have been, by a series of excellent clauses in the new leases granted for the Dang districts of his Collectorate by Mr. Tytler, the rights of the State to the Teak plantation now in progress in very many villages of the three Talookas are settled on a foundation so satisfactory as to preclude in my opinion all chance of future misunderstanding, and to afford good ground for hope that in the course of years we may see numerous small patches of forest, chiefly Teak, in this line of country now so bare of trees.

Numerous agreements, whereof a list* will accompany this report (will be forwarded with the general statement) have been already entered into with the heads of villages, and I hope after next month to be able to despatch the Hungamee Karkoon, now employed elsewhere, to those Talookas, in order that he may mark off the general forest limits, in as far as this is practicable, and may also prepare a general report of the state of the forest in each village.

98. I beg to be allowed respectfully to record the great assistance which I have received from the Revenue Commissioner Southern Division, and the present Collector of Ahmednuggur, throughout these proceedings.

KOLWAN FOREST.

99. Here we had a pretty large cutting this year, carried on entirely by the servants of the department.

Experience has taught us that under any system of contract made in cutting Teak forest, either for carts or other purposes, reckless destruction or depredation to a serious extent always takes place, and that the only plan for keeping up Teak forest, so as to afford a continuous and regulated supply, is to work it by means of Agents directly responsible to the Conservator.

100. In organising the cutting we had this year three objects kept in view. Of these, the first was to provide a number of logs which might be found fitted for railway sleepers, and thus save the expense of bringing these from a distance.

Secondly, to afford a quantity of long and straight wood for the posts of the electric telegraph.

Thirdly, to suppy a quantity of rafter and other wood for the wants of the neighbouring markets of Bhewndy, &c. and, in doing this, to give employment to a great number of carts, the owners of which depend on the carriage of the forest materials for their annual subsistence.

101. The cutting of wood for the rail turned out a failure.

The logs were inspected, and rejected, on account of the small number deemed sufficiently perfect for sleepers.

* As this list is intended merely for the use of the local departments, viz. those of the Komavisdars and the Conservator, is appears unnecessary to lengthen the report by inserting it here.

Likewise in respect to the wood for the electric telegraph.

Owing to accidents arising from fire, theft, &c. we could not furnish more than than eleven hundred poles, and of these a considerable portion was rejected.

102. However, on the whole, the cutting has been profitable, as the logs rejected by the Railway Company have been sold at a rate of remuneration probably exceeding that which we should have obtained from them, while the rafters sold in the forest to different merchants have yielded a good profit.

103. On the whole, the nett returns have been Rs. 7,689-4-9, after paying all charges, while a remainder of wood of the value of about Rs. 500 remains on hand for next season.

CUTTING IN TALOOKA SUNJAN, ZILLA TANNA.

104. On these a good profit has been realised, viz. Rs. 2,979-2-4, after deducting expenditure, Rs. 228-12-3. There is near the bunder of Sowta an extensive tract covered with small Teak, which being thinned out with advantage to the remaining trees, the thinnings sell at a good profit.

More in the interior the trees are larger, straight, and of a promising character.

105. Here, as well as in Kolwan and Mokhara, operations have been considerably crippled by the sickness of the agents.

The season seems to have been a more than usually unhealthy one in that quarter.

To this sickness I chiefly impute the failure of the full supply of poles for the telegraph, which I expected to have procured.

106. In the course of the ensuing season, it is my intention to cut in Kolwan, chiefly old ripe trees, to be sold for carts and other purposes. No more poles will be cut there until I have examined a part of the forest in person, which I hope to be able to do in the course of January 1856.

INAM AND DOOMALA VILLAGES IN KOLWAN, PENN, KALLIAN, AND BHEWNDY TALOOKAS.

107. Disputes connected with encroachments and other undue assumptions of property by Inamdars have caused and continue to cause a great deal of tedious and unsatisfactory correspondence.

It were most desirable that, in the course of the survey now in progress, the bounds of such villages should be accurately and permanently fixed, as at present the complaints of encroachments by such parties on the neighbouring Government forest are continual.

108. Much correspondence has also taken place, owing to the assumption of forest rights by Inamdars or Doomaldars, whose sunuds, being mere tunkha grants, conferred no forest rights; but as, during the series of years in which the forest rights of Government were little looked into or cared for, the usurpations of these parties were in many cases permitted, there remained the somewhat difficult and not less ungracious task of inquiring into the extent of their rights, and frequently of curtailing the license which had prevailed.

I will notice one out of several cases as an example, viz. that of the villages attached to the religious endowment of Vuzerabhoy, in the Bassein and Bhewndy Talookas.

109. Some years ago I had the Duftur records of the Peshwa carefully searched for any documents bearing on the villages which form this grant, but could only find that assignments of so much revenue or produce from each had been granted for the worship.

On this account, I have this year attached a quantity of Teak and Seesoo wood cut by the managers of the endowment, and given notice that in case within two months no documentary proofs are produced as to further extent of rights than that discovered by me, the materials will be sold for the benefit of Government.

CROOKED TIMBER AND KNEE TIMBER FROM KOLWAN AND BASSEIN DISTRICTS, AND THEIR DEPENDENCIES.

110. While on the subject of the Northern Konkun, I may as well advert to the reference* which was some time ago made, inquiring the reason as to the great advance of price which had taken place in the rates fixed for Bassein crooks and knees.

In reply, I showed that this enhancement was due chiefly to the reckless manner in which old trees had been allowed to be cut and burned away at a time when the forests were not under regular control; that this practice had prevailed to such an extent that it is now very difficult to procure first class crooks.

I also showed that, on reference to my forest report of 1848, paragraph 60, it would be seen that I had long ago brought the same subject to the notice of Government, and had then expressed my doubts as to whether in the whole of Kolwan, including the Peta of Mokhara, three thousand No. 1 curves could be procured.

Subsequent experience has led me to believe that even this estimate is too high.

* Memorandum from Government to the Military Board No. 301, of 8th March 1855.

Also, I showed that since the contract has been taken into the hands of Government, and a paid Maistree entertained, we have, while charging for larger curves the prices fixed by the Board's tariff of 1846, realised annually somewhere near Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 to credit as signorage, or, in other words, that the actual cost of the crooks to Government has been reduced by about thirty-five per cent.

For example, during the past year the value of the supply charged at the rates fixed in 1846 has been Rs. 7,501-8-9, but the actual cost has been Rs. 6,097-4-0, which leaves a signorage of Rs. 1,504-4-9 to the credit of Government.

111. This scarcity of large crooks is a serious matter, and it may be a subject for consideration whether, in the view to a supply in future years, trees could not be planted in situations where they are exposed to the high sea winds, and by reason of this grow up quite crooked.

112. Such localities are to be found on the sea-board of the Northern Konkun, particularly in the Mahim Talooka.

In the South Konkun we come upon the laterite rock immediately on leaving the sand; also, I observed in Malabar, that on the sea border between the Beypore creek and the village of Tannoor, to the south, all the Banyan and other trees planted there by the Government many years ago had grown up completely crooked and gnarled.

The difficulty to be contended with in such a locality is the protection of the tree during its early growth; and this could only be effected by a wall to each of loose stones or mud, rising to the height of about six feet.

The subject should, I am respectfully of opinion, be kept in view.

113. In the mean time, I have this year procured a large supply of medium and smaller crooks and knees from the forest of the Southern Talookas of the Tanna Collectorate, including Alibagh, which has furnished a number of the second class.

114. Also I have, as before observed, put in requisition the jungle at Keerwuttee, between Yellapore and Dharwar, where Mr. Poulton has cut about nine hundred crooks of the first and second class, all of which I examined as they lay in the forest.

The natural curve of these is, however, considerably inferior to that of the northern ones. Mr. Fenner has also furnished a few, and I have some hope that from certain parts of the Dang we may get a further supply, though generally the tendency of Dang timber is, owing to the configuration of the country, to run straight up.

115. I examined much of the Teak in the Soonda forest, with a view to its aptitude for crooks; but there also the trees generally are straight in the bole.

116. Lieutenant Michael, before he left India, informed me that on the eastern border of the Anamala forest there is a hilly tract from which a large number may be obtained, but that owing to the nature of the intervening country carriage from thence to the coast would be difficult and expensive.

CUTTING AND TRIMMING IN OTHER PARTS OF THE KONKUN AND DECCAN FOREST.

117. These I have thrown into one general head, in order to avoid unnecessary prolixity.

In the Mahal of Purga, Talooka Bhewndy, we had an extensive trimming of young wood, costing about Rs. 236, with a return of not more than Rs. 14. This was caused by the nature of the trees, which afforded only small branches, without any root-shoots.

118. In the Bassein Talooka, where forest is now making good progress, and where there are some rather extensive preserves, particularly under both wings of Kamundroog, we had a cutting which afforded a good profit.

Also in Nusrápore, where I have reserved a quantity of rafters to meet the exigencies of the Sind indent, received too late to allow of export of material before the rains.

Above the Ghauts, cuttings took place in Gornehr with good profit.

119. In the villages of the Khair Talooka, on the Bheema, west of Chas Kuman, viz. Mokhul and Kurdeh, cutting was continued for this the second year, and as the numerous promising trees in Kuman have now been trimmed, we may look for a good return from thence in the course of a few years.

120. In the eight or ten villages higher up the river, the scattered Teak trees in which about twelve years ago were directed by Government to be taken into conservation, a modification having to that end been made by order of Government in the village rates, Teak plantation is now thicker, so that where there was one scattered tree before there are now ten.

121. I expect to be able to have in this valley, as well as in the next to be mentioned, viz. the Ghor valley, a succession of annual cuttings for the supply of the wants of the people in the more open country further down.

122. In the Ghor valley, the Teak forest continues to improve in the upper or newly conserved villages, and we had this year a cutting, attended with a good profit.

123. In the Brahminwara Mahal of Poona Collectorate, and the adjacent Talooka of Ankoleh, under Ahmednuggur, in both of which localities the Teak forest villages are rather numerous, no cutting took place this season, but in the ensuing season (1855-56) I hope to be able to do something in both, keeping

in view the principle we usually follow, viz. that for five thousand sticks cut, twenty thousand young trees shall be trimmed into growing condition.

124. The plantations in the Ankoleh, Kownaee, and Dindoree Talookas have been already noticed, therefore no more need be said of them here, except to state that the small cutting in the Dindoree Talooka was made at the request of the Civil Engineer, Malligaum; but as he declined paying more than Rs. 14 per 100 for the wood, it was sold to private individuals at Rs. 20 per 100.

This shows that even inferior material, provided it be Teak, is very generally in good demand.

125. Rafters, however crooked, can be so shaped as to lie on the roofs of houses, and such crooked wood is generally stronger and more durable than that which is straighter.

PENTH FOREST.

126. In the past season, operations could not be commenced here in the early months, owing to the non-receipt of sanction from Government for the modified scale of wood fees which I had proposed.

From the beginning of February the new scale came into operation.

Girdling of trees for the cutting of the ensuing season has taken place in seven villages.

127. The new rates appear likely to work satisfactorily.

We have had much up-hill work here, in preventing the mutilation of trees; but the Komavisdar and the Koolkurnees—the latter the most powerful and influential of the village officers—are now rather more ready to lend their aid to the measures of Government in this respect than they were two years ago.

128. It should be observed that as a Koolkurnee here often serves twenty villages, he has power much more extensive than that of the Patels.

CHOWSALEH DEPOT.

129. Owing to my absence from the Presidency, and other causes, no provision was made at the usual early period for the bringing of squared timber from the Dang.

For this reason, the quantity that year has been small, not exceeding 470 logs.

Besides this, 499 poles were provided for the permanent line of the electric telegraph.

130. The whole of the wood remaining at the depôt last year was disposed of in October last to the Engineer Department at Ahmednuggur, and there

seems no chance that any amount of supply which we can provide need wait long for a market.

SURAT BRANCH OF TIMBER DEPARTMENT, AND DANG FOREST GENERALLY.

131. Not having yet received the report of proceedings in this branch during the past season, I am unable to speak in positive terms as to its state of solvency or otherwise.

In case the report should arrive previous to the present paper being sent on, I will forward it as an appendix. (See Appendix B.)

132. In the mean time, I have the pleasure to submit, as an accompaniment to this, a report from Mr. Fenner (Appendix A), and a journal by Mr. Davidson, the Second Assistant, detailing his proceedings from the time of his entering the Dang in the end of March. (Appendix C.)

If these documents could at any time hereafter be returned to me I should feel obliged, as I wish to record them.

133. From both of these reports I would judge that the state of the Dang has considerably improved since 1848, and that the practice of destructive cultivation has been materially abated.

The fine lately inflicted on the Peepree chief for this fault will have a very good effect, as it was inflicted publicly at the meeting of the Rajas at Suptshring in May.

134. Last year I arranged that the First Assistant (Mr. Fenner) must in person visit the forest for fifteen days in April, and again for fifteen days in May, of each year, while the Second Assistant must remain in the forest from late in March to the end of the season.

Mr. Fenner reports the staking off of the northern Dang boundary as being completed.

135. Last year the Government were pleased to direct that a set of rules for the better preservation of the Dang forest should be drawn up.

These will shortly be submitted to Government by the Political Agent, with such modifications as may be agreed on between that officer and myself.

The Agent expresses an opinion in which I entirely concur, viz. that with an active Superintendent of the Northern Branch no rules are needed, and that when the incumbent happens to be one of a contrary character, no rules will be of any service.

136. The supply of timber made during the past season has been considerable, and, for purposes of general consumption in the Naval Department and in the Presidency Arsenals, it seems to be preferred to any other, being in

strength and endurance as superior to that of Malabar as the latter is believed to be to that of Maulmain.

137. The confining of the northern depôt to Bulsar, and the consequent abrogation of the Surat branch, enabled us to effect a considerable reduction of establishment last season.

138. The road from Khandeish through the Dang to Bulsar, long ago projected, and more lately (viz. in 1853) sanctioned by the Supreme Government, remains yet in abeyance.

By the aid of such a road, we should not only be able to effect some further saving in the jungle establishment of the branch, but to work the forests more equably, by bringing the wood from the northern boundary more readily to Bulsar. Also the jungle timber, much of which is excellent, but which at present may be said to have no value, albeit well fitted for railway purposes, would then become an article worthy of export, if some arrangement could be made as to the heavy and unequal local imposts at present levied by the Gaekwar and Bansda States.

The subject of these duties is, I believe, still under the consideration of Government.

FOREST IN FORTY-SIX VILLAGES OF NOWAPOORA MAHAL, KURYPORE TUPPA.

139. These forty-six villages, which there seemed every reason to suppose had been usurped by the Baroda Government, have, if I am rightly informed, been finally adjudged, in conformity to the very strong documentary proof adduced, to belong to the British Government.

140. In case my information on this subject be correct, I deem it of much importance at the present juncture that the case be publicly notified as having been settled, as from this piece of forest the exact description of timber suitable for the permanent posts of the electric telegraph could be furnished in large quantities, viz. long straight poles, wherein no joining is required.

DHURUMPORE AND SOOLGANA FOREST.

141. A proposition was this year made to me, as emanating from the Dhurumpore or Ramnuggur Raja, to rent the forest in his State, on the same principle as we hold that of the Dang.

142. It would be of much use to our neighbouring forest if some arrangement could be made in regard both to this State and the dependency of Soolgana, as we could probably then afford to let mercantile people have a supply of northern crooked timber, which at present, owing to the pressure of the wants of the Naval Department, we cannot do.

143. Although there must be quantities of crooked timber in the Dhurumpore State, that which is brought to Bulsar is generally straight, as being that which is most readily met with in the plain country.

144. There exist, probably in the political circumstances of the country, obstacles to private parties going into the more difficult ravines and hill valleys.

BOMBAY DEPOT.

145. Thirteen months have now elapsed since the arrangements for the transfer of the timber in Bombay to the Conservator's Department were begun, but the actual transfer was not commenced till October.

146. The present scattered state of the material—a portion being on Colaba, a further division on the Esplanade, and another quantity at Mazagon—not only leaves the smaller timber liable to be stolen, but considerably increases the work of issue.

For these and other reasons, it seems most desirable that the new depôt some time ago planned should be begun as early as practicable.

147. The wood once stored there, a considerable saving will immediately ensue in regard to the strength of the present establishment, and important advantages in respect to the security of the material in store.

Also, until the depôt be formed, nothing can be done for the protection from weather of the valuable Poon spars now in store, each of which represents a value of from Rs. 700 to Rs. 1,000.

148. An inspection of these now abutting on the vellard at Colaba (to the left hand in proceeding from the Fort) will at once demonstrate the irreparable injury which such wood sustains from continued exposure to sun and rain.

The saving, also, in point of hamalage, will, under the new arrangements, be great, as each hamal costs Rs. 9.

SIND FORESTS.

149. Of the state of these I am kept regularly informed by Captain Hamilton, the Forest Ranger.

150. From his reports it appears clear that the plan at length acted on, of altogether stopping cultivation within the forest limits, is the only condition under which forest can exist in such a country, and that had we continued the plan of permitting cultivation in the preserves, accompanied as this always is by stealthy and gradual encroachment on the surrounding forest, the scarcity of fuel for the river steamers, already begun to be felt, must have ended in a total want of it. Captain Hamilton most lucidly describes the manner in which parties cultivating in the forest appropriated to their own purposes the

whole of the water supply, thus killing thousands of valuable trees situated beyond the verge of the river percolation.

JUNGLE TIMBER AND FOREST FEES.

151. These latter have been chiefly managed under the farming system, excepting in those places where, from the distance of Police Amuldars, or other causes, there is a chance of the fee exaction being abused, and made an instrument of oppression.

Thus, when the outlets leading to the country are distant from the Soobha station, the plan of direct collections has been adhered to.

152. These and the farmed amounts have been mostly made without any difficulty, and with very little necessity for correspondence.

153. In the Northern Talooka, viz. Sunjan, the farmer of trees endeavoured to escape a large amount of his liability, but Government justly refused a concession which seemed neither usual nor called for.

154. An arrear from 1852-53, due from a farmer of the Rajpooree Talooka, yet remains unrealised, notwithstanding that, after careful investigation by the Revenue Commissioner Southern Division as to the point in dispute, the defaulter was adjudged to be ordered to pay up the instalment, which had been held in abeyance pending the investigations. Looseness of practice on the part of the local authority, added to the reckless villany of these Nagotna people (the like of which I have not seen in any other part of the Presidency), have concurred to prevent the realisation, which can only be effected by the most stringent pressure on the means of the securities; and should it be found that these are men of straw, and unable to meet the obligation to which they have bound themselves, I am respecfully of opinion that the levy should be made from the pay of the Komavisdar or Mahalkuree in whose office the security was taken.

155. It is not the mere value of the item due, for that is within Rs. 400, but the prevention of the triumph of successful chicanery, which ought to be the main object.

156. In February 1854 I had the honour to address a letter to the Collector of Tanna, bearing date 9th February No. 148, proposing sundry modifications in the fee system.

I requested that early attention might be given to the suggestions offered, in order that such of them as might be deemed worthy of adoption should be determined on previous to the time for letting the annual fee farm for that year.

157. As I have not yet been favoured with a reply on the subject of these,

which were submitted in a view to their ulterior consideration by Government, I would respectfully sugget that in regard to one or more of them, which are of considerable importance, some decision should be arrived at.

One of them regards the subject of cutting Aeen wood for keeta or firewood.

158. The destruction of this description of tree for fuel is very great, and my Assistant, Mr. Poulton, writes me that the same is the case in Malabar, insomuch that contractors for railway timber are now paying Rs. 7 per khundy on the spot, and even at this rate, owing to the exhaustion of the forests there (where nearly all the forest is property), none of any size is procurable.

159. On these grounds I am of opinion that, looking to the requirements of both of our branches of railway, but especially to those of the northern line, it is of importance that some stop be put to the excessive destruction of Aeen wood which is now going on.

At the same time, being well aware of the great outcry which would be raised by the northern merchants on the subject were I, of my own motion, to attempt any measures, I should be loth to deal with the case on my own responsibility.

160. As I hope to visit the Sunjan and Kolwan Talookas in January or February next, I will have an opportunity of making a further report on the subject, in case any such be needed.

161. The rule which in 1853 Government were pleased to order to be put in force in regard to permits issued by the Jowar Raja has not been obeyed yet by that authority, whose advisers have consumed two years in writing letters, all tending to the same unsatisfactory conclusion, viz. that he declines to meet the views of Government.

162. Under these circumstances, in order to preserve our own revenue from the injury which it annually sustains from the irregular practices of our neighbour, the only course which appears to be open is to subject the material brought from Jowar, or said to be brought down thence, to the same fee as that levied on our own timber.

163. Having thus given an account of proceedings during the past season, I will now say a few words as to what I propose to do in the ensuing one.

164. From my former reports it will be seen that most of the growing forest within our own limits is now in a state to admit of a regular annual expenditure, as the general plan we follow in cutting is to bring four to five times the number of trees of those cut into a growing state, by means of regular trimming and lopping.

165. In each piece of forest, the quantity cut in any season when cutting does take place, there may average five thousand sticks, so that as we work

about twenty-five forest pieces in one season, we can reckon on furnishing a supply to the extent of one hundred and twenty-five thousand, applicable to the wants of the several local markets.

166. This number of forest pieces annually to be worked could be extended but for the difficulty I find in obtaining headmen of sufficient activity, experience, or intelligence, to carry the work on.

167. In Kolwan and Mokhara I propose to cut about three thousand old trees, in order that the stocks thereof may produce fresh shoots, and also because it is of consequence to afford a good supply of material for the manufacture of carts, and employment for the regular wood-carriers.

168. The old stocks cut down last year realised about cent. per cent. as sold in the forest.

In the preserved forest at Severndroog, a supply of sotas or large rafters, sufficient for the use of the Government establishment, will be cut.

169. In the Southern Talookas of the Tanna Collectorate the cuttings for the season will embrace six pieces of forest,—those of Penn and Alibagh two; in Khalapoor Mahal of Nusrapore Talooka one; in the Soobha Peta of the same Talooka one; in Kolwan two; in Sunjan one.

DHARWAR COLLECTORATE FOREST PRESERVES.

170. Of the remainder above the Ghauts from Kunassee, in the Bauglan Talooka, southward to Kekvee, I have said nothing in the foregoing report, because I have not had an opportunity of visiting them since they were formed.

They have since 1851 inclusive been worked on the fee system, Teak and Seesoo being forbidden to be cut, and reserved as Government wood.

171. This year Mr. Ogilvy, the Collector, has written to me, giving his opinion that all cutting of wood in them should be stopped for some years, else they will speedily be exhausted.

From what I know of that part of the country, which produces but a small modicum of stunted wood, I am much disposed to endorse the Collector's opinion, the more so as the neighbouring jungle of Soonda, in its Sambranee and Bagawuttee Divisions, must always be the chief source of supply for Dharwar, and the whole of the open country as far east as Bellary.

172. Hence arises the vital importance of keeping the Soonda forest free from destructive cultivation,—an end which Captain Anderson, of the Survey, and myself, have been endeavouring for years to attain.

The indifferent success which has attended our efforts will be apparent from the foregoing report.

FIGURED STATEMENTS, GIVING THE RESULT OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE SEASON.

173. These I forward now, as being merely those of the Department under my own direct management.

Nett return, after deducting expenditure of cutting, and Khotes' shares, &c.	Rs.			34,460	15 11
Ditto from jungle fees				37,585	2 3
Ditto from sales of fallen and stolen wood, fines, recoveries, &c				1,078	1 11
	Total....	Rs.		73,124	4 1
Deduct salary and travelling allowance of Conservator, from 1st June 1854 to 31st May 1855	Rs.	9,450	0 0		
Expense of office establishment and foresters		3,816	0 0		
				13,266	0 0
	Total nett return....	Rs.		59,858	4 1

174. I should here mention that, owing to the nature of the operations, the forest season commencing in August and ending in May, June, or July of the year following, a detailed view of these operations, exhibiting results up to the end of April, could not be framed so as to give an intelligible view of them.

While, therefore, I strictly adhere to the new system, in framing my accounts for audit at intervals of six months, I respecfully hope that the above statement of results may be accepted.

175. In closing this report, I trust I may be permitted to state my opinion that it were most desirable, for the future interests of Government, to have some one appointed under me, in order to make him acquainted with the numerous varied details embraced in the Forest and Garden Department.

At present, in case of any accident happening to myself, these details would form to a new comer a chaos not easily reduced to order.

176. Also, in the event of my desiring (as may probably be the case) to visit Europe for a time, I could thus have the satisfaction and comfort of leaving an instructed person to conduct the duties in my absence.

One essential requisite in such an appointment I may be allowed to state,

viz. that the officer acting in it should possess a good knowledge of the Murathee language,—at all events sufficient to enable him to conduct the office duties, as the Murathee correspondence is very extensive.

ALEXANDER GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

Hewra, 15*th August* 1855.

APPENDIX A.

No. 60 of 1855.

To Dr. A. Gibson,

Conservator of Forests.

Sir,—I have the honour to report for your information that I left Bulsar for my first tour in the Dang forests on the 5th instant, and on the 7th entered the Dang by Kurjaee Naka. My first duty was to visit the Kathooreeas at Wugai, where I found fifty-three "choolas" (fire-places). The wood felled for the preparation of the "kath" has been (up to the time of my visit) Kheir timber unavailable for Government building purposes, *i. e.* crooked. The kath thus prepared does not appear to be of the best description, owing, I suppose, to the process of preparation rather than to any defect in the resinous qualities of the wood itself. Of this, however, whether it be good or bad, we have no concern; I merely mention the fact for your information.

From Wugai I proceeded on to Peepree, where I found another kath manufactory, consisting of nineteen choolas; the Kheir timber felled has all been crooked, and ill-grown. With one or two exceptions the above nineteen choolas have been sublet by Pestonjee to a Banian from Abhowna, in Khandeish, at the rate of Rs. 2-8-0 per choola. From the lateness of the season in which this kath process has been commenced, the contractor will, I suspect, be a considerable loser. This, however, is his affair, and not ours. Near these places, Wugai and Peepree, some Parsees have established stills or "bhuttees," for the preparation of the spirit "mowra," which they sell to the Bheels, Kathooreeas, cultivators, &c. Their "mandwas" are always just outside our boundary, either in the Gaekwar or Bansda State, so that we have no control over them. The system, however, of vending spirits to the Bheels, naturally a very inflammable race of people, is productive of a great deal of mischief, and leads to feuds and excesses that would otherwise seldom be heard of. Certain it is, that as long as the Bheels can obtain spirits within reasonable distance from their abodes they will purchase it at any price; and equally certain it is that the Parsees who live by the trade will continue

it as long as purchasers can be found. I have mentioned the evil—remedy I know not; so I suppose it must, like others, continue in its course.

Leaving Peepree Dang (of which more hereafter), I passed into Dang Garvee, which Dang during the present season has not been visited by any of our timber-cutters, in consequence of the Kurjaee or middle road having been destroyed (near the crossing of the Ambeeka river) by the late inundations. This forest, in its deep and almost inaccessible ravines, possesses plenty of Teak and other varieties of timber in great abundance. In some of the villages alluded to, little or no timber of any kind has been felled. Throughout this Dang (Garvee) I observed little or no "khandar"* worthy of notice; and from information gleaned from the forest establishment, I am inclined to believe that the ruinous system of mowing down trees, and burning them for cultivation, has during the present year, in this part of the forest, been considerably checked.

From Rooee Mahal I passed on, into Dang Derbowtee, the country of the late Ankoos Raja, now that of his son Nowla Raja. This Dang possesses plenty of timber of various kinds, but the wood, Teak in particular, does not attain to any great size. This forest has been but little worked—that is, since the time of the Government lease. The north and eastern side of this Dang (Derbowtee) adjoins that of His Highness the Gaekwar. Along this line of boundary there are ten villages in which the Gaekwar claims a half share. During the present season I have caused this part of the forest boundary to be marked by "koontas" (large stakes), continued from the last terminus in the Dang Garvee, on to the village of Bhea, situated beyond the limits of the Gaekwar's territory, and in conjunction with that of Ramchunder Naik, a Bheel chieftain, with whom we are less likely to have disputes of boundary than with the authorities of Songhur.

From Derbowtee I proceeded through the forest known as Kutmahal, it being a subdivision of the abovementioned Dang (Derbowtee). This part of the jungle abounds in small Teak, and the usual varieties of timber found throughout these forests. Bamboos are not seen in such profusion as in the Dangs Peepree and Garvee. Our timber-cutters seldom visit this distant forest, except for "sotas," which are here found in great profusion. The Naik of Kutmahal complains that the late Ankoos Raja always mulcted him of one-fifth of his annual stipend; I therefore intimated that if he had any complaint to make he could do so to Mr. Mansfield, at the usual meeting of the Bheel chieftains in May next. Leaving Kutmahal, I went on to our furthest eastern naka, at Singana, where I remained three days, with the expectation of meeting Bapoo Saheb, the Kiladar of Songhur, who had expressed a wish to

* Destructive cultivation by cutting down entire trees.—A. G.

meet me in my tour through the forests at the abovementioned locality; but after leaving Singana I received a Guzerathee yad informing me that the Kiladar was absent at Surat or Nowsaree, on urgent business.

From Singana I followed the line of boundary lately marked off, and continued my route along the eastern side of Derbowtee, across the Poorao river, on to Khotbhur, the Suwusthan of Kairal Sing, in Dang Garvee, where I met the Raja and his bhaeebund. Throughout this tract of country I observed little or none of the system of khandar before alluded to. The forests, particularly the deep ravines, are thickly studded with small Teak, Seesoo, Kheir, Tunnus, &c. This eastern portion of the Dang does not appear to have suffered from timber-cutters since the Government lease, or the guarding of the nakas leading up the ghauts.

From Khotbhur I proceeded in a southerly direction on to Gobetun, situated on the north end of Dang Amalee. Here the forest is more open, and Bamboos, the usual mark of Teak-growing localities, are seldom seen. Leaving the above village, I changed my course westward to Rooee Mahal, and from thence back again through Dang Peepree by a more northern route. While passing through the vicinity of the village of Chikoteea, Patel Oolia Gamed, I came across several large patches of forest land that had been laid bare by the axe,—trees, bamboos, all mowed down *en masse* level with the ground. This wholesale destruction, if permitted, would of course in a few years entirely change the character of the forests. I would therefore submit for your early consideration whether, under all the circumstances, it would not be advisable to mulct the Raja Trimbuk of a portion of his coming instalment. This would, I think, effectually prevent repetitions of a similar nature. At the last meeting the Rajas all promised to attend to the injunctions given by Mr. Mansfield and Major Morris in connection with this important particular, and with this exception they, as far as I know at present, appear to have fulfilled their promises. I afterwards met the Raja's Dewan and Karbaree, who said that the mischief had been done without their knowledge, and that no further depredations of the kind should be permitted. I gave them to understand that I should suggest the necessity of deducting a portion of the next instalment, to cover the loss sustained. I would further beg to observe, in connection with this khandar, that a portion of our establishment, viz. those of the Kurjaee Naka, whose beat it is, appear to have displayed great negligence in the performance of their duty. The Mehta forwards bi-monthly reports, which have hitherto made mention of any depredations committed. Now it is quite manifest that had the Havildar, Naique, or any of the Peons visited this part of the forest within the last month, it could not have escaped their observation. I have therefore changed the Mehta to the Kakurda Naka, and fined him Rs. 10. Whether he ought not to be dismissed, I leave for your consi-

deration. The other subordinates will be fined in proportion to their respective salaries.

I shall pass through Dangs Wasoorna and Amalee during my next tour; in the mean time, I trust you will consider this rough report as only demi-official, and allow me to condense it, with the second, into one general report.

I have just discovered that one of our Patels en route from the forests had concealed nine large sotas, worth about Rs. 50 or Rs. 60. In cases of this kind, if I could be invested with magisterial authority to investigate and punish such offences, it would, I think, effectually prevent similar offences being committed. I can fine them as it is, but then I do so without authority, and the *morale* is lost. I shall therefore feel obliged by your giving this subject your early consideration.

Before leaving the forest, I met Mr. Davidson, and requested him to examine the Dang of Ramchunder Naik, which lies on the eastern side of Derbowtee. The Naik is anxious that we should lease the country similarly to those already rented. From a report of Mr. Harvey's it (the Dang) appears to possess but little timber of any value; but it would be a kind of safeguard to Derbowtee, and prevent depredations in that Dang. I will, however, do myself the honour of communicating further information in connection with this subject as soon as I am in possession of Mr. Davidson's report. Leaving Dang Peepree, I passed out by way of the Kurjaee Naka, and reached Bulsar on the 22nd instant. In conclusion of this report, perhaps you will inform me what sum you would suggest being deducted from Trimbuk Raja, on account of the khandar before alluded to.

I have the honour to remain,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) W. J. FENNER,
First Assistant Conservator of Forests in Guzerat.

Rough Memorandum of Mr. W. J. FENNER'S *Movements in the Dang in the Month of May* 1855.

May 12*th.*—Left Bulsar for the forests this day, *viâ* Ghaij.

15*th.*—Entered the forests *viâ* the Kambla Naka. Jemedar and Naique brought three Coolies who had been found trespassing in the Dang. Fined them, and sold the few Bamboos that had been cut. Received letter from

Mr. Davidson. Sold to Ahmed Moosa some refuse wood deposited here since the time of Mr. Roberts. Mehta and Jemedar report that the Kathoореeas waste a great deal of wood.

16*th.*—At daylight visited the part of the forest where the Kathoореeas had been felling Kheir timber for the preparation of kath. We must stop this kath-making, for more reasons than one. Halted at Oogur, the village of Urjoon Naik. Observed some khandar; got hold of the Naik, who by-the-bye is very sick. He promises to come on to the hill meeting.

17*th.*—At daylight went on SE. to Cheeka; a good deal of open ground here. Lots of young Teak in the ravines; very difficult to get at. Met some of the timber-cutters, who complain of the scarcity of water. They require further advances for the "purraj-ka-zukat," which I did not give them, for the best of reasons.

18*th.*—Went on to Nana-ka-para (Rambaj). En route met Bapoo Raja, who made many complaints relative to the establishment of grog-shops,—the bane of the Dang population doubtless. The Raja and his bhaeebund start for the hill to-day. Forest very open, with the exception of the slopes, which are tolerably well covered with small Teak.

19*th.*—Proceeded on to Malgaum, near the Cheep Ghaut. East of Salheir little or no Teak jungle of any value is found. Passed up the Cheep Ghaut. Loaded cattle frequent this route.

20*th.*—Passed through Abhowna on to Nandooree; afterwards proceeded up the hill. Put up with Mr. Mansfield. Rose gone to Bombay on leave.

22*nd.*—This day assembled the Rajas on the hill. After having, in concert with Mr. Mansfield, investigated several complaints made by the Rajas' people, we presented the "poshaks," and paid the half-yearly instalment, fining Raja Kairal Sing of Dang Garvee the sum of Rs. 100 (from last instalment, kept in abeyance by Major Morris, for an attempted negotiation for the sale of one of his villages to the Kiladar of Songhur). Raja Trimbuk was also fined Rs. 25, for loss sustained by khandar in his Dang (Peepree).

23*rd.*—Proceeded *viâ* Abhowna on to the village of Kachun. At 4 P. M. went down the Ghaut, and halted at Chemere. A poor jungle; country thinly populated; no cultivation; little or no traffic by this route.

24*th.*—Proceeded on to Boorkhul, in Dang Amalee. In this vicinity there is plenty of young Teak, small. This young wood appears to have grown up, so the Raja's brother informs me, since the time of the Government lease. This I think probable.

25*th.*—Passed on, through a wild dense jungle, and undulating country, to Damandhur: by this route I passed through virgin forests,—not a tree seems to have been felled.

26*th.*—Proceeded on to Garvee through a thickly wooded country. No villages, and no traffic by this route. During the present season none of our timber-cutters have reached Garvee, the Ambeeka Kharee having become too deep to ford with the carts. This is rather fortunate, as it will compel the cartmen to take the northern jungles, which have been less worked.

27*th.*—Proceeded on to Chikoteea, the village I visited last trip, and found so much loss by khandar. The Patel had made himself scarce; the felled wood had since been fired, as reported by the Jemedar. Wrote a takeed to the Raja's Karbaree, intimating that his next "hufta" would be kept in abeyance until the May meeting.

28*th.*—Proceeded to Peepree, where we met the Raja's Karbaree, with whom I had a long jobation. He promises great things. The Kathooreeas stationed here have left with all their families for Abhowna: this saves us the trouble of turning them out.

29*th.*—Passed on to Koorkuj village. Sent a Peon to Wugai to warn the Kathooreeas to decamp before the rains, as they would not be permitted to remain subsequent to the 15th June. Arrived at Kurjaee. Received a letter from Mr. Davidson at Kakurda. Wrote to the Baideepara Mehta to stop the further felling of Kheir by the Kathooreeas, who were to quit the jungles on or before the 15th June. Quitted the jungles this day.

30*th.*—Passed several of the timber-cutters with their third trip timber, en route to the bunder. Many of the cattle done up. Pushed on and reached Bulsar this day.

(Signed) W. J. FENNER,
First Assistant Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX B.

No. 116 of 1855.

Timber Department.

To Dr. A. Gibson,

Conservator of Forests, Poona.

Sir,—Having given you a rough sketch of my late movements in the Government Dang forests in April and May last, I will now embrace in one general report the several subjects I am desirous of laying before you.

2. In my first report I alluded to the necessity of stopping *in toto* the destructive system of khandar, by which acres of young trees of every description are mowed down by the Koonbee cultivators. Much has been done during the last four or five years, both by myself and my predecessor, the late Mr. Roberts, to stop this wholesale destruction of forest lands; but after four years' experience amongst these people, I feel confident that unless we hold the several village chiefs responsible for their respective paras or districts, the conservation of the forests can never be carried out in as satisfactory a manner as we could wish.

3. It is necessary for me to inform you that these village Patels participate in the annual stipend paid to the several Dang Rajas by the British Government for the lease of their forests. Under these circumstances we should, I think, in the event of any wilful destruction of the forests being proved, be empowered to mulct the whole, or at all events a portion, of the annual payment due to the offending parties. This measure would, I believe, tend more to the effectual conservation of the young forest trees than any other that could be introduced; for it is utterly impossible that our forest establishment can guard each individual village, extending as they do over so large an extent of country.

4. The parts of the forest in which this system of khandar mostly obtains are Dangs Rambaj and Peepree. At the late annual meeting of the Bheel chieftains in May last, two of the Rajas, Kairal Sing and Trimbuk, were fined

respectively in the sums of Rs. 100 and Rs. 25, the former for attempting to negotiate the sale of one his villages to the Kiladar of Songhur, and the latter for losses sustained by khandar in the abovementioned Dang. These are the first fines that have ever been imposed upon any of the Dang chieftains in connection with our forest duties.

5. With respect to our forest establishment, which annually eats up a large amount that might otherwise be shown as a profit to the department, it appears to me (now that the boundary or territorial line in connection with that of His Highness the Gaekwar is regularly staked off) we shall not require so large a number of people to guard the frontier, and the several nakas, or roads of entrance to the forest.* I would therefore submit, for your consideration, the accompanying modified scale of establishment, which, if it meets your approval, might be carried out during the coming season.

6. I would further bring to your notice that, from the unhealthy nature of these jungles (*i. e.* nine or ten months out of each successive year), the services of a European Second Assistant on Rs. 130 per month are almost thrown away; indeed, I feel assured that the ends of Government would be much better served by employing a Native servant, on Rs. 30 per mensem, who could traverse the forests six months consecutively, instead of three, with less risk of falling a victim to the unhealthiness of the climate.† Under these circumstances, Mr. Davidson, the present Second Assistant, could, I should think, be more advantageously employed in some other branch of the Government service.

7. You are already aware that during the last season we tried the experiment of making kath in the Dang, and that an agreement was made with one Pestonjee, a resident of Billimora, by way of testing how far this source of revenue could be carried out without detriment to the general conservation of the forests. In the agreement entered into, it was stipulated that the contract was only experimental, and might be negatived at the expiration of the season, if found to be prejudicial to the culture of the young forest trees.

8. At the time of letting the contract, it was thought that plenty of crooked Kheir timber (unavailable for Government purposes) might be found for the preparation of the kath, and that the superior grown wood would not require to be touched; but in my second trip to the forests I found that the Kathooreeas felled everything in the shape of Kheir, and, indeed, made a regular clearance of the young trees of every description growing in the vicinity of their peetas,

* A mistake; quite as much required as ever.—A. G.

† I cannot concur in this recommendation. The Second Assistant can be advantageously employed until March either on the eastern frontier of the forests or elsewhere.—A. G.

or kath manufactories. Under these circumstances, coupled with the jealousy with which the Rajas themselves were wont to view our letting the contract, it was determined at the annual meeting of the Dang chieftains in May last that the kath process should be discontinued at the commencement of the rains.* Consequent upon this arrangement, we have had to refund to the contractor Pestonjee the sum of Rs. 192-8-0, which, added to Rs. 207-8-0, the approximate value of the kath manufactured, made up the equivalent, Rs. 400, the amount originally paid into our treasury on the letting of the contract.

9. During my second tour in the Dang I passed through the Rambaj and Amalee jungles *viâ* Cheep Ghaut, on to Suptshring, at which place the annual meeting of the several Dang chieftains took place on the 22nd of May. Subsequent to the payment of this second half-yearly instalment, and the general presentation of the poshaks to the Rajas, I returned to Bulsar by way of Kachun Ghaut, through Dangs Amalee, Garvee, and Peepree.

10. In my first report to you I mentioned the fact of one of our timber-cutters having stolen some large sotas, and replaced them by others of less value, while en route from the forests to the Government depôt. These sotas have since been recovered, and the offender fined in the sum of Rs. 40. You are aware I have no authority to deal with the ryots magisterially in petty thefts of this nature, and that fines so levied are opposed to the Government Regulations, and my right for so doing liable to be questioned. I would therefore submit for your consideration whether you think it would be expedient to meet these cases of larceny on other grounds than that of simple fine.

Mr. Davidson's journal, kept while in the forests, has not yet come to hand. It will be forwarded to you immediately on its receipt.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. J. Fenner,

First Assistant Conservator of Forests.

First Assistant Conservator's Office, Surat, 17th July 1855.

* It is not desirable that this manufacture should be renewed.—A. G.

Scale showing the Present Forest Establishment serving under the First Assistant Conservator of Forests, in Charge of Timber Department in Guzerat.

Forest Establishment (present).		Rs.	a.	p.
Kurjaee Naka :				
1 Mehta	Rs. 15			
1 Jemedar	10			
1 Havildar	8			
1 Naique	6			
4 Peons at Rs. 5	20	59	0	0
Kambla Naka :				
1 Naique	Rs. 6			
2 Peons	10	16	0	0
Koeta Naka :				
1 Naique	Rs. 6			
2 Peons	10	16	0	0
Kakurda Naka :				
1 Mehta	Rs. 15			
1 Jemedar	10			
1 Havildar	8			
1 Naique	6			
4 Peons	20	59	0	0
Baideepara Naka :				
1 Mehta	Rs. 15			
1 Naique	6			
4 Peons	20	41	0	0

Forest Establishment (proposed).		Rs.	a.	p.
Kurjaee Naka :				
1 Mehta	Rs. 15			
1 Jemedar	10			
1 Naique	6			
2 Peons at Rs. 5	10	41	0	0
Kambla Naka :				
1 Naique	Rs. 6			
1 Peon	5	11	0	0
Koeta Naka :				
1 Naique	Rs. 6			
1 Peon	5	11	0	0
Kakurda Naka :				
1 Mehta	Rs. 15			
1 Jemedar	10			
1 Naique	6			
2 Peons	10	41	0	0
Baideepara Naka :				
1 Mehta	Rs. 15			
1 Naique	6			
2 Peons	10	31	0	0
Dabdhur Naka :				
1 Naique	Rs. 6			

Dabdhur Naka:				1 Peon	5		
1 Naique ..... Rs.	6					11	0 0
2 Peons	10				Rs.	146	0 0
		16	0 0	Monsoon Establishment.			
	Rs.	247	0 0	2 Jemedars, and 2 Peons.		30	0 0
Monsoon Establishment.							
2 Jemedars, 2 Havildars, and 2 Peons		46	0 0				
Total.... Rs.		293	0 0	Total.... Rs.		176	0 0

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) W. J. Fenner,

First Assistant Conservator of Forests, in Charge of Timber Department in Guzerat.

First Assistant Conservator's Office, Surat, 17th July 1855.

APPENDIX C.

No. 13 of 1855.

To W. J. Fenner, Esq.,
Assistant Conservator of Forests.

Sir,—With reference to your note undef date the 16th instant, I have the honour to lay before you the following information on the points alluded to in the abovementioned note.

1. The extent of Ramchunder Naik's Dang is about fourteen square miles, running north and south, open to the north-east to the Gaekwar's people, where the Gaekwar has shares in ten or twelve villages, of which Kair Kambla is the centre. To the north it runs into Deochund Naik's Dang, where the Gaekwar has shares.

2. There is apparently some fine timber in the ranges, but, on examination, they turn out to be mere shells,—at least all those I have examined; and I have been particular in examining such large trees as came under my eye, and all, without exception, are more or less worm-eaten.

3. The soil for the most part is a rich, tenacious kind, and is favourable to the growth of Teak up to the time it has done shooting upwards; but when it begins to fill out, it is attacked by a small hard-shelled insect, which soon penetrates to the core, where it finds both food and shelter, and forms those shells you may have observed in the Derbowtee Dang. The timber-getters are so well aware of this peculiarity, that they will not take the trouble to search such spots for good timber.

4. There is plenty of good timber in the Garvee and Peepree Dangs, and I am of opinion that the story of the river being impassable this year to those forests has been trumped up between the Raja or his Dewan and the cartmen. The Rajas of the Peepree and Garvee Dangs employ the same Dewan to transact their buisness, and of course what he does for one he will assuredly do for the other. They are afraid we are working their forests to exhaustion, and wish to be in receipt of their half-yearly payments as long as Possible.

5. There is also some excellent timber in these Dangs, by the Dabdhur Naka, but the cartmen are afraid of the distance to Bulsar; if the Oomra Bunder was again opened, I have no doubt that the greater part of the next season's timber would be taken from here.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. DAVIDSON,
Second Assistant Conservator of Forests.

Camp Baideepara, 26th April 1855.

No. 26 OF 1855.

To Dr. A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

SIR,—I have the honour to lay before you the following general remarks on the state of the Dang forests.

2. The Peepree and Garvee Dangs are very much exhausted, the former much more than the latter. The Derbowtee is useless as a Teak conserve, all the large timber being hollow. This is owing to some peculiarity in the soil. The Amalee Dang is as yet nearly untouched, from the great difficulty experienced in getting at the timber, situated as it is among deep glens and ravines.

3. In the Guygothun and Bohr Mahal forests, of the Garvee Dang, there is plenty of good timber, but, from the distance to Bulsar, the timber-getters prefer cutting inferior timber in the more southerly forests. To remedy this, I would suggest that the branch depôt at Surat be re-opened, and I am nearly sure most of the next season's supply will be taken to Surat. There is another advantage to be derived from the re-opening of the branch depôt,—that is the transit tax is much less between Jaukree and Surat than between Jaukree and Bulsar; consequently, the timber would be cheaper.

4. Blackwood, I observe, is not in such great quantities as Kheir, or even Tunnach, and very little is fit for the axe, the most part being little better than saplings.

5. There are immense quantities of Kheir in every forest of the Dangs, and the catechu farmers should be held responsible for any wilful, wanton mischief, committed by their servants, the Bheels, who make the catechu. These Bheels ruin just as much timber as they use, cutting great holes in

the trees, and in some instances felling the tree, and leaving it to rot, or to be used by the first person who chooses to pick it up.

6. Tunnach is not very plentiful, nor very large in size. There is a fine young forest in the vicinity of Halmoree, in the Koeta Dang.

7. I have occasionally met some very large trees of the Teemboornee or Ebony, but its principal habitat being on the banks of rivers and water-courses, I have not seen very much of it.

8. The Sadra (Aeen), Heyd, and Kullum are three of our tallest forest trees, and are plentifully sprinkled through the forest.

9. In conclusion, I would beg to suggest that a trial be made of parking a piece of forest (Teak) land, and strewing it over plentifully with seed, gathered in the month of February, when they are just drop-ripe. This was the plan I believe adopted by the Ameers of Sind, when forming their shikargahs, and to this day is followed in England in forming Oak parks. The enclosure might be made of stakes, or by planting a good thick Bamboo hedge all round.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. DAVIDSON,
Second Assistant Conservator of Forests.

Surat, 25th July 1855.

Journal of a Tour in the Dang Government Forests, kept by Mr. J. DAVIDSON, *Second Assistant Conservator of Forests.*

March 26th, 1855.—Started from Surat.

27th.—Arrived at Bardolee this morning, and started for Bajeepoora at 6 P. M. Travelled all night.

28th.—Arrived at Bajeepoora at 3 A. M. Left at 2 P. M., and arrived at Beara at 8 P. M.

29th.—Left Beara at 3 A. M., and arrived at Lukalee at 7 A. M. Remained here all day.

30th.—Left Lukalee at 5 A. M. for Kakurda, and arrived about 9 o'clock.

31st.—Wrote to Mr. Fenner, announcing my arrival in the forest. Gave leave to the Mehta of this naka (Kakurda) for one day, to visit the Oonaee hot-water springs.

April 1st.—Left Kakurda. Arrived at Peepulwara at 8 A. M. Observed some Teak curves left here by the Parsee contractor. They are not worth

sending to the bunder. Moved on to Koeta, and arrived at 6 A. M. Found the Naique and Peon on the alert.

2*nd*.—Left Koeta at 3 A. M. Arrived at Kurjaee at 6 o'clock. Mustered the establishment, and found *all* at the station. After the repeated orders I had given last year, about keeping only one sepoy at the naka, and making the others range the forests, I find the whole of the forest sepoys idling away their time at the naka. Repeated the order that only one man should be kept in the naka, and saw the others go to their duty. Expecting Mr. Fenner's arrival in the forests, I will wait here a few days.

3*rd*.—A timber-getter, to whom Mr. Fenner has given a pass to purchase any old timber laying in the forests, is very troublesome about taking his timber away. The Mehta informs me some of the timber picked by this man is comparatively new timber. He is directed to await Mr. Fenner's arrival.

4*th*.—Kurjaee, awaiting Mr. Fenner's arrival. Nothing particular.

5*th*.—Proceeded on to Wugai, to visit the catechu farm; arrived at 8 A. M. Visited the encampment this evening, but the manufacturers were away in the forest cutting Kheir for the next day's work.

6*th*.—Burra Wugai. Counted forty choolas or fires in active operation for the manufacture of catechu. Observed a great deal of wanton mischief committed upon Kheir trees by the Bheels employed in making the catechu: axe-chops in many of the best trees, and others felled, and left to rot, or, what is more probable, left to the Parsee peeta or tavern-keepers to use up, when we leave the forest during the monsoon. The forest in this vicinity is composed principally of Bamboo, Kheir, and Aeen, with a slight interspersion of Teak. The Mango is occasionally seen, but the Bamboo forms the forest.

7*th*.—Left Wugai this morning at 5 A. M.; arrived at Kurjaee at 8 A. M.

8*th*.—Kurjaee. Mr. Fenner arrived. He directed all the old timber at the nakas to be sold, according to its value or state, viz. Rs. 1, Rs. 2, Rs. 3, or Rs. 4 per log.

9*th*.—This morning received Rs. 1,053-2-0, to be paid to Raja Hussoo Sing, from Mr. Fenner. Mr. Fenner left this morning for Wugai. 11 A. M. Sepoy informed me that some Tunnach had been cut by some Gaekwar cartmen in the Government forests, and that he had seized the men and material. Sent the case to Mr. Fenner for settlement.

10*th*.—A heavy thunderstorm about 11 P. M., lasted about half an hour.

11*th*.—Another thunderstorm this morning about 12 o'clock. At about 2 P. M. Raja Hussoo Sing arrived. Paid to him, by order of Mr. Fenner, Rs. 1,053-2-0 in presence of Mehta Vishnooram, and Sepoys Shaik Russool and Russool Khan. Received stamped receipt.

12*th.*—Started for Kakurda at 5 A. M.; missed the road; arrived at Peepulwara at 1 P. M., 6 koss from Kakurda. 3 P. M. left Peepulwara, but had to put up in Jamunpara, just midway; servants, coolies, &c. very tired.

13*th.*—Arrived at Kakurda 7 A. M. Mehta informs me he received orders to exchange to Kurjaee, yesterday. Received the present journal, blank, from Mr. Fenner.

14*th.*—Left Kurjaee for Baideepara at 3 P. M.; arrived 9 P. M. Received a note from Mr. Fenner dated 13th instant, directing me to meet him at Singana.

15*th.*—Left Baideepara 4 A. M.; arrived at Nowchallia 2 P. M. Remained here half an hour, and moved on again; arrived at Chimeer 6 o'clock. Wrote a pencil note to Mr. Fenner immediately on arrival (my luggage not having come up the Ghaut), informing him of my arrival at this place, and that I would see him next morning.

16*th.*—Arrived at Singana 7 A. M. Was informed Mr. Fenner left the evening before at 3 P. M. My note was forwarded on to him. Received a note at 1 P. M. from Mr. Fenner, directing me to examine and report upon Ramchunder Naik's forests. Forwarded to Kurjaee, to meet Mr. Fenner, the receipt for Rs. 1,053-2-0 paid to Raja Hussoo Sing.

17*th.*—Left Singana to examine Ramchunder Naik's forest. Arrived at Kurrunjwa, a village of the Derbowtee Raja; left at 3 P. M. Arrived at the village Jogue Thowa, another village belonging to the Derbowtee Raja, and held in share with the Gaekwar's agent, or farmer, for these districts, the Kiladar of Songhur. Slept here.

18*th.*—Left Jogue Thowa. Passed through a portion of Ramchunder's forest (vide my report to Mr. Fenner, No. 13 of 1855). Arrived at Keerlee, the residence of Ramchunder. Water very bad, and very scanty. Moved on to Hunmunt Para; arrived at 11 A. M. The water here is very little better, though there is more of it. Moved on to Kotboh, the residence of the Garvee Raja, Kairal Sing. Slept here.

19*th.*—Moved on to Peepree at 5 A. M.; arrived at Raneemahal at 9 A. M. Weather threatening. At 3 P. M. moved on to Chikoteea. On the way met the Garvee Raja's Dewan or Secretary. Arrived at Chikoteea at 6 P. M. A catechu farm here, of eighteen chhoolas, having been removed from Peepree to this place.

20*th.*—Started for Kurjaee; reached Koorkutch about 9 A. M. The Peepree river is fordable in many places. Arrived at Kurjaee about 5 P. M.

21*st.*—Received a note from Mr. Fenner, dated Palgubhan, 21st April 1855. Nothing particular.

22*nd.*—Kurjaee. Peon Russool Khan very ill with fever. All new comers to the forest, remaining any length of time, are sure to be attacked with a kind

of bilious fever, peculiar to these forests, (the remedy the Natives use is the actual cautery,) which may be called an acclimatising fever.

23*rd.*—Left Kurjaee for Halmoree, in the Koeta Dang, at 3 P. M.; arrived about ½ past 6 P. M.

24*th.*—Left Halmoree this morning for Kakurda, arrived 8 A. M. Found one of the Singana Sepoys at this naka. Instructed the Mehta not to harbour any sepoy of another naka more than a few hours, to rest himself, or a night to rest himself in the mandwa. Moved on to Lukalee at 4 P. M.; arrived about 9 P. M. Slept here.

25*th.*—Arrived at Baideepara at 8 A. M. Examined the Mehta's register, as directed by Mr. Fenner in his note of the 20th instant. Found all the sotas, supposed to be surreptitiously cut and stolen from the forest, registered in the Mehta's book.

26*th.*—Sent a man to the Mamlutdar of Walore, who was caught cutting Bamboos in the Dang Government forests. Reported to Mr. Fenner.

27*th.*—Visited a branch of the catechu farm about two miles from my camp. The pith of the Kheir tree is eagerly sought after by the Natives as a curative in bronchial cases. Number of choolas (fire-places) eleven.

28*th.*—Baideepara. Nothing particular; weather intensely warm.

29*th.*—Still at Baideepara; my servants having been sent into Surat, sick, I am detained here waiting for others.

30*th.*—Left Baideepara at 4 A. M., *vid* Roopghur. Observed some khandar near the village of Boonjar. I was informed the Havildar of the Baideepara naka did not do his duty, and therefore I recommended his dismissal. Reached Kakurda at 8 A. M. Received a letter from the Police Amuldar of Walore, requesting me to send to Walore the peon who seized some seventy-five Bamboos, surreptitiously cut, and all the Bamboos. The former was sent, but there being no carriage for the latter, I could not send them, but informed him of the value.

May 1*st.*—Started for Halmoree this morning; arrived at 8 A. M. Naique reports some Bamboos cut in the Koeta forest, and burnt for manure for fields. Left for Kurjaee at 4 P. M.; arrived about 6 P. M. Observed about six logs of Sehwan timber, that had been cut and left to rot since Mr. Roberts's time. They are utterly useless. Arrived at Kurjaee at 6 P. M. Mehta reports the Jemedar and Naique of Kambla have been out on duty since the 11th ultimo, and no reports have been received from either of them.

2*nd.*—Wrote to Mr. Fenner on the subject of the Bamboos cut by the man Gabhna, and sent all the papers connected with the case to Bulsar.

3*rd.*—Kurjaee. Naique Bunnoo fined eight annas for absence from naka.

4*th.*—Jemedar and Naique of Kambla have arrived. No satisfactory

account can be had from either of them of what they have done, or where they have been. The Jemedar reports having broken down some illicit stills in the Rambaj Dang, which I had been given to understand had been done by some of Captain Rose's sepoys.

5th.—Kurjaee. Have observed that the timber-getters for the railway contractors bring in very excellent timber from the Gaekwar and Bansda Raja's forests. It is inferior in size and length to what is found in the Government forests, but superior in quality, being sound to the core, and of that peculiar reddish-brown colour that distinguishes good Teak. I do not mean to say that plenty of the same kind cannot be found in the Government forest,—there are thousands of logs; but the timber-getters reject it, on account of its small size in length and girth.

6th.—Kurjaee. Nothing particular. I very much regret not having a good thermometer; the weather is getting dreadfully hot.

7th.—Started for Wugai this morning, on a tour through the Rambaj Dang; arrived about 7 A. M.

8th.—Left Wugai this morning, and arrived at Rambaj about 8 A. M. Left Rambaj at 3 P. M.; arrived at Nana-ka-para at 6 P. M. Met Bapoo Kowur, the Raja of this Dang. Particularly warned him about khandar in his forest. He informed me that he was bound by the terms of his agreement to respect only Teak, Blackwood, Kheir, and Tunnach, but he was at perfect liberty to cut away the branches of any other species of tree, for manure for his fields, so long as he did not injure the abovementioned conserved trees by the fire.

9th.—Left Nana-ka-para this morning at 5. Observed some attempt at pruning Teak trees; observed also some tolerable sized rafters or sotas. Arrived at Chicklee about 8 A. M., and Wasoorna about ½ past 9 o'clock. The former village has been depopulated by small-pox and cholera, last year. Left Wasoorna about 3 P. M., the Raja accompanying me; arrived at Boorkhul a little after 5 P. M. There is plenty of excellent Teak between Nana-ka-para and Boorkhul; though wanting in length, its great girth will make up. The whole range of hills, as seen from the spur of Boorkhul, is, I am informed, stocked with very large timber; but from its desert-like want of water, it is never resorted to, even by any of the Natives (except for a day's hunting), much less by the cartmen; in fact the Amalee Dang is but rarely touched.

10th.—Left Boorkhul this morning at 5. Observed plenty of good large Teak, though somewhat deficient in length. This portion of the Dang does not appear to have been much worked, or at least not for the last ten or twelve years. I have seen twelve or fifteen-year sotas growing from the stumps of large trees, that seem to have been cut about that time. The Teemboornee

or Ebony has its habitat on the banks of watercourses. Some very large trees I have seen during this morning's march. Reached the village of Ah-Nowa; timber pretty good in the vicinity. Started for Garvee, or Rooee Mahal, and arrived at ½ past 3 P. M. The weather is very warm, and had to travel during the heat of the day. Slept here.

11*th.*—Chikoteea. Arrived this morning at 7. The heat is increasing. Observed some khandar; Teak not touched, or more properly not injured, for the ryots have been pruning, and have left the usual head and stump. It is only the Bamboos and jungle-timber that have been damaged, but even such khandar is detrimental to the growth and development of Teak, for the young trees require shade. Started for Koorkutch, and arrived at 5 P. M.

12*th.*—Arrived at Kurjaee this morning. Was informed a packet of official letters had been sent after me.

13*th.*—Directed the Mehta to read out aloud to the assembled sepoys a circular received from Mr. Fenner. Was informed Mr. Fenner would be in Kurjaee on the 15th instant.

14*th.*—The Naique of Kambla reported a trespass upon the forests by two men from Bansda, whom he detected cutting Bamboos within the Government boundary. Handed the men over to a Jemedar of the Bansda State, to produce when Mr. Fenner arrives.

15*th.*—Was informed Mr. Fenner had arrived at Kambla; reported the above circumstances by note.

16*th.*—Left Kurjaee at 5 P. M.; arrived at Koeta at 7 A. M. Wrote Dr. Gibson an answer to a letter received this day from him, dated 25th March.

17*th.*—Left Koeta at 5 A. M.; arrived at Kakurda 8 A. M. Mehta reports having received copy of circular.

18*th.*—Left Kakurda at 3 P. M.; arrived at Lukalee at 7 P. M. Slept here.

19*th.*—Moved on to Jaukree, a village of the Gaekwar's. Pitched my tent, and remained here all that day. The weather is fearfully warm.

20*th.*—Left Jaukree this morning for Baideepara; arrived at 9 A. M. Mehta reports that upwards of a hundred Tunnach saplings were cut during the month of November last, and burnt for manure. Reported the circumstance to Mr. Fenner.

21*st.*—Baideepara. Directed two sepoys to visit the place where the Tunnach has been cut and burnt, and on their return the account is confirmed. They seized two Brinjarees having just cut down three Blackwood trees. Visited the site of an intended catechu farm, near Tarpara, in the Gaekwar's territory, where he intends carrying on the business during the monsoon.

22*nd.*—Baideepara. Nothing particular. Fined the Brinjarees Rs. 4, to be recovered and sent in to Mr. Fenner by the Mehta of the naka. At 2 P. M.

received a visit from the Kiladar of Songhur. He complains bitterly of the razing of the liquor manufactories in the different villages of the Garvee Raja, in which he has a half share. I told him I could do nothing in the business.

23*rd*.—Wrote to Mr. Fenner on the subject of the Kiladar's visit of yesterday.

24*th*.—Ordered that all Teak timber lying in the forest be reported to Mr. Fenner on the 1st and 15th of every month.

25*th*.—Left Baideepara at 5 A. M., *viâ* Roopghur. Observed a great many stumps of Teak rafters, newly cut, and found one rafter ready dressed, laying alongside its stump. Brought it in to Kakurda, and ordered it to be sent to Bulsar; and directed a rigorous search for the remainder.

26*th*.—From the search for the remaining rafters, I have learned that Roorga, Patel of Chakdurra, had cut them. Fined him Rs. 15, and directed the money to be recovered and sent to Mr. Fenner. The number of rafters was sixty.

27*th*.—Started this morning from Kakurda for Untapoor, on my return to Surat, the weather having become so hot that it was nearly unbearable. I have forgotten to mention a curious fact, that while riding through the forest, on more than one occasion the trees were actually raining sap! Arrived at Untapoor about 10 A. M., and at Walore at 5 P. M.

28*th*.—Left Walore this morning at 5, and arrived at Bardolee at 11 A. M. Started for Surat at ½ past 1 P. M., and arrived at ¼ past 9 P. M.

(Signed) J. DAVIDSON,
Second Assistant Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX D.

THE Conservator of Forests has the honour to forward the accounts of Mr. Fenner, which exhibit a slight deficiency of receipts over disbursements, or, if one-half of the Dang rent be deemed a political charge (vide correspondence of 1853), the balance to credit would be Rs. 1,964-5-5.

The Chief Engineer desired that the Conservator should frame the whole of the outgoings and returns of the Forest Department into one general table.

He is, however, unable to do this on the present occasion, partly because he has not sufficient knowledge of accounts to enable him to do so, but still more owing to the unexpected demise of the officer in charge of the southern branch, owing to which he cannot procure the detailed information of cost and returns necessary for a tabular statement.

Also, owing to the great extension of duties caused by the care of what is now becoming forest in the Southern Konkun, the correspondence devolving in consequence of the placing all plantations made throughout the districts under the Conservator's charge, added to the onerous duties connected with the Bombay Depôt, he has not any time for the detailed calculations required in such a table.

The Chief Engineer will be gratified to observe from the accompanying correspondence that Mr. Fenner has left no balance outstanding from his own advances, and that he has succeeded in recovering within the year the considerable sum of Rs. 990-1-8 of those left outstanding by the late Mr. Roberts.

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

REPORT FOR 1855-56.

REPORT FOR 1855-56.

Some time has now elapsed since the forest account of expenses and returns in the main division, or that under the immediate care of the Conservator, has been submitted to Government. (An abstract of the accounts is printed in Appendix A.) Properly, the present report should have accompanied that account.

2. It has been deferred in order that the transactions of the northern branches might be incorporated with it, as it must otherwise have been incomplete.

3. As the Conservator had to comply with the urgent call made in June last for a history of his general transactions throughout the year, he in consequence anticipated much of the detail which otherwise would now have been entered into, but which could not be again gone over without useless repetition. This will be avoided by his now confining himself to more general statements as to the condition and prospects of the forest in each province, detail being put out of place, as the forest accounts now before the Chief Engineer fully supply that desideratum in regard to each forest in which cuttings or thinnings have been carried on.

SOUTHERN OR BELGAUM AND DHARWAR DIVISIONS.

4. Here active operations were confined to the removal of the numerous large Teak trees which had been killed during the process of destructive cultivation, carried on with such intense and reckless vigour between 1851 and the end of 1854. The work of removal of this dead material has as yet been but partially accomplished. From the result, however, of sales made in 1854-55, and from the estimated value of that removed in 1855-56, we may easily gather how serious has been the loss to Government from these destructive measures.

Of dead trees removed in 1854-55 the sales amounted to.. Rs. 2,835 2 10

Ditto ditto in 1855-56, the wood this year having been, at the same value and measurement, made over to the cotton gin factory at Dharwar 2,423 2 4

5. Besides this, of course countless numbers of smaller trees must have totally perished. Nor was the destruction confined to Teak, for of Seesoo and Honee (*Pterocarpus Marsupium*), both valuable woods, the devastation has been quite as great.

6. As a proof of this, during the present season the cutting and removal of dead Seesoo thus felled has already cost me Rs. 200, and it is anticipated that the value of the wood may be equal to or greater than that of the Teak sold in the course of last season.

Of Honee we have had to begin a twelve-acre plantation for the future supply of the two most emergent wants of public departments.

7. By the exertions of H. W. Reeves, Esq., Revenue Commissioner Southern Division, and of Captain Anderson, of the Revenue Survey, also of the present Collector, Mr. Karr, there is reason to hope that the tide of destruction has now been stayed; the more particularly as the Collector and his subordinates give every assistance in carrying out the measures begun in January 1855 for limiting destructive cultivation, and for excluding the Gowlees or buffalo-feeders.

8. The latter class flock hither from the Goa territory, and head off and cut down large numbers of young Seesoo trees as food for their cattle. The drafts on the yet immature forest reserves of Dharwar were so heavy, and the destruction of timber so indiscriminate, that the Collector proposed shutting up the reserves altogether for some years; a measure, in the propriety of which I quite concurred, the more so as Dharwar urgently requires a belt of forest to supply the place of that which is now so rapidly disappearing on the eastern frontier of Soonda, where the clearing has been and still continues to be (according to the reports of Captain Anderson and Dr. Forbes, lately received by me) the rule, and preservation the exception.

Had this forest of Soonda been ceded to us (as was proposed by Sir George Arthur) in 1845, it might at this time have been a great and inexhaustible source of supply for railway timber and building wood.

The existing market prices on the south coast, for Aeen, Bondara, and other jungle-timbers (Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 per khundy) show how diminished are the sources of supply for this material. I have no hope that the Dharwar preserves will ever produce a timber fitted for anything beyond the construction of common houses—but even this is something; while it may be hoped that a far-seeing policy will at length awaken the Fort St. George authorities to the necessity for effectually preserving the Canara and Soonda forests, especially on their eastern boundary.

This year the supply of Teak furnished from Soonda for the Naval Department is described (by the head of the office at Sudasheoghur) to be very

defective, the logs having (I presume) greatly suffered from the effects of fire, and other injuries incident to cultivation around the trees.

9. The most economical and most efficient manner of managing this southern forest (inclusive of that of our Belgaum Zilla) would be to have one Assistant to a Conservator, either of Madras or Bombay (for sectional differences are not to be thought of in such a case), who should have his head quarters at Hullihal, or Juggulpait, or Yellapore, and from thence manage the whole forest tract, extending from the northern limit of the Bedee Talooka of Belgaum to Honawur.

The proceeds of a regulated expenditure and sales would be sufficient, and probably much more than sufficient, to pay the charges of such a local Conservator and his establishment. This measure I had the honour to recommend some years ago.

In the present divided state of the subordinate charges, but little that is likely to be effective, either in the way of present profit or prospective conservation, can be done.

10. It was in the view of carrying out this idea as far as it was in my power to do so that I applied for the services of Mr. John Davidson, late Second Assistant Northern Branch, to be employed in looking after the southern preserves within our limits, including the newly formed preserves in the Kittoor Mahal, and the Babool forests in the Uthnee, Hoongoond, and other Talookas.

This measure the Government were pleased to sanction in June last, and it has since been confirmed by the Supreme Government.

Mr. Davidson joined in the end of August, and was immediately detached to make his way gradually south, looking at, and reporting on as he went, the Sattara preserves.

Having done this, he has now joined his station in the Belgaum Collectorate.

SAWUNT WAREE.

11. So much for the forest of the Southern Talookas. I now proceed to notice that of this province, which was last visited by me in January 1855, and I had then the honour to recommend the undertaking of an experimental thinning process, which was carried out from August to November 1855, under charge of a Muccadum from this Department. The returns were such as to warrant the measure being repeated in future years.

The expense incurred was .....Rs.	167	5	4
Gross returns.....	309	15	5
Nett profit.....Rs.	142	10	1

This profit does not appear in my annual accounts, as it is credited to the Waree State.

12. The work done is very small, as compared to the extent of young forest in that country, so that the work may be carried on probably for twenty years, so as to bring the wood (otherwise very tangled and bushy) into a proper state of growth.

In concert with Major Auld, I last year made an alteration in the scale of signorage levied on Teak exported from the State eastward, as the existing scale (adopted about eight years ago) was found to be considerably too low.

13. Had the road which was commenced by Major Phayre *viâ* the Parpolee Ghaut been continued, it would have afforded great facility for the export of wood to the upper country, as it debouches below within a short distance of Kesree, Kinlos, &c., where the best preserves of Teak are.

It is therefore to be regretted that circumstances should have occurred to interrupt the formation of a line of communication with Belgaum so perfect as this promised to be, and also so convenient for reaching the coast.

FOREST OF RUTNAGHERRY COLLECTORATE.

14. Of this I may say generally that, with the exception of a rather profitable cutting in the preserve on the Anjerla creek, and a small quantity of wood felled for the building of a kutcheree at Kankowlee (Ashea Mut), no forest operations were carried on; but a good deal of correspondence has passed in determining claims to small pieces of plantation, complying with requests for conservation on the share principle, &c.

This correspondence has been throughout of a satisfactory nature, as showing that the people now know the extent of their right to existing forest, and that they are not disposed to travel beyond it in search of fanciful or ill-supported claims. In fact, the able and judicious measures taken by Mr. Coles, when Collector, are now showing the results which might have been expected from them, and the present Acting Collector, Mr. Scott, appears to be carrying them out with much zeal and discretion. I have lately had some communication with this officer, on the subject of applications from parties to plant Teak on a joint interest, and I believe my own opinion coincides with that of the Acting Collector as to the propriety of granting them one-half of the future proceeds, and he has now under promulgation a notice to that effect.

15. It is easy enough to provide on a broad and liberal scale for such undertakings; but at future periods the division of families, the action of mortgages, &c. tend greatly to complicate such questions of property.

16. In the Malwan Talooka and Salsee Mahal we have found to exist a

quantity of forest, considerably larger than we were previously aware of, particularly at Seedghur, Beerownda, and other places.

The integrity of the Anjerla or Severndroog main forest is much damaged by the concession made about twelve years ago of one wooded ravine (filled with Teak) to a retired Komavisdar, Mahomed Tukki, of Tureel.

My opinion has always been that he obtained that concession by some subordinate "khutput," and this view has been confirmed by a document which I have lately seen, and which tends to prove that at the auction sale of 1829 the wood in his ravine was sold along with that of the other forest.

The damage to our forest is caused by the Tureel villagers poaching extensively on it, and the material has been discovered in their possession. They are uniformly ready with proof as to its having been cut in this man's ravine.

17. The Teak in the neighbouring Tuppa of Palghur, under the fort of that name, is now thickening up in quantity, and will in a few years afford a profitable cutting.

SOUTHERN TALOOKAS OF THE TANNA COLLECTORATE.

18. Of these I visited a large portion early in the season, and had occasion to notice the generally improved state of the forests. There is now hardly a village without its patch of Teak on the hills near it, and while of these trees in more exposed situations a large number will never be fit for more than rafters and small crooks, others in the more sheltered places will attain a respectable size.

19. The outrages and plunderings formerly so much complained of as originating from the Hubshee's border have been much less frequent.

These and other satisfactory results as to the preservation of Teak in the Ryghur Talooka were greatly owing to the good management of Veesajee Rugoonath, for some time Komavisdar of Ryghur, but subsequently reduced for an offence committed in the Police department, in connection with the taboot business. As the offence in question did not, in as far as I am aware, involve any moral delinquency, there seems to be no reason why I should withhold the meed of praise which I deem to be due to him for the aid he afforded to the Forest Department.

20. We have had in these Talookas several extensive cuttings and trimmings, the former for the supply of public departments, and for the permanent line of electric telegraph from Sattara.

21. There is now ample material in these Talookas for an annual cutting and trimming in the regulated fashion for each.

22. The question of Wurpaleh and Kuveelwal, two villages in which Go-

vernment have sanctioned the attempt to extinguish the mortgages, and thus bring them under "khalsa" settlement, will be shortly taken up, and results shall be duly reported.

COLABA, ALIBAGH.

23. We have had this season but a small regular cutting here; but in the current year (1856-57) a large supply of boat-crooks and No. 4 crooks will be provided. Sundry attempts have been made to open this forest for the supply of firewood to the Bombay market, but, adverting to the limited quantity of jungle-timber existing in it, we have preferred keeping to the old custom of the State, viz. the confining the consumption of jungle and firewood to the territory itself.

BHENDY GARDENS, COLABA.

24. The first plantation made, viz. at Sat Tar, has some time ago been made over on share to a cultivator, so that now it causes no charge to Government.

The growth of the trees here continues to be backward, but in some places, where the hedge gives shelter from the sea-winds, they look better. At the Sakuria garden, the trees are more forward and healthy, but it will be many years before they give a return in ripe timber.

In the mean time, however, the garden causes no charge to Government, as the pay of the gardener, kept up for the Bhendy cultivation, is more than defrayed by the rent which a gardener pays for the remainder of the cultivated portion (including fruit trees).

This, with the trees, has been let on a ten years' lease, we providing the renter with a new water-wheel.

25. In the high land between the Colaba State and the Nagotna Mahal, I am sorry to have to report an extensive destruction of "raee" or green-wood forest, by burning for cultivation.

I did my best to stop the damage, but causes of which I am not aware seem to have prevented the neighbouring Mahalkurees and Komavisdars from interfering in time, notwithstanding the stringent prohibition as to cultivation in such places.

MIDDLE FOREST REGION, EXTENDING FROM COLABA LIMITS TO THE NORTHERN END OF NUSRAPORE TALOOKA.

26. Of this division I may state generally, that the young forest is of a promising character. Thus we had in the division, during last season, three

separate establishments for cutting and trimming, viz. one at Neephar, one at Asra and Manowlee, and a third at Koorung, in the northern part of the Nusrapore Talooka.

27. In December 1855 I made myself acquainted, by personal inspection, with the nature and extent of the jungle which stretches from below the Khandalla Ghaut to that of Malsej, and had much satisfaction in seeing that the conservation arrangements are well carried out by the Komavisdars of Nusrapore and Moorbar.

I have had occasion to notice, in several separate reports, the extensive destruction of Seesoo and other valuable timber among the Ghauts in this line, and to lament the impossibility of dealing with the offenders promptly and effectually, owing to the withering influence of the Sudder Adawlut Circular, which has ruled that such offences, if not brought to notice within one month, cannot be dealt with by the local Amuldars, who are even forbidden to forward the complaint to higher authority.

Such detail regulations, or rather bye-laws, are often very hurtful in their operation, as unsuited to the extent and circumstances of the districts to which they are applied.

28. The destruction of jungle-wood under the Malsej Ghaut, by cultivation burning, has led to the issue of a fresh order by the Revenue Commissioner Northern Division; and should the provisions of this be carefully carried out by the subordinate local officers, we may hope to see a more thrifty and fixed cultivation replacing the present slovenly one, so ruinous to the timber resources of the country.

FOREST FROM MALSEJ GHAUT NORTHWARD TO THE LIMITS OF PENTH HURSOOL.

29. I traversed the forest in the Talookas composing this division, by passing through the country extending from the foot of the Chonda Ghaut by Dolekhamb to Bhewndy, and from thence by Doogaum Wareh, Peck, and Oojinee, Mokhara, &c. to the Dhurumpore bounds, from the ulterior side of which we enter Penth.

On the part of the forest in the Bhewndy Talooka, I should mention that the depredations and destruction continue considerable, and these chiefly by the hacking down of immature trees for cultivation material.

30. The intemperate habits, also, of the coast people, lead them to steal the better sorts of wood, for which there is a ready sale to the liquor-dealers, while the amount of proof required by many of the local Amuldars as to their having been seen in the act of cutting the wood is something unattainable.

31. From Wareh inland the preservation of the wood is better, until we reach the Mokhara bounds, where the denudation of the hills by annual burning has destroyed much of the jungle, which was one of the sources from whence we drew our crooked timber.

On this important subject, I had occasion to dilate in separate reports in February and March last, and the result of this continual destruction has been that we are now forced to seek this description of timber in distant countries, such as Malabar and the Dang.

32. The open country of Mokhara, though (as above observed) bare as to forest, yet in the deeper ravines to the north there is a plentiful show of young Teak, and this may be observed to be still more the case towards Gumbeerghur, and so from thence to Sowta Bunder, on the coast. There exist, in the northern part of the Mokhara Mahal, two or three large villages, where the country slopes down towards the Damungunga. These villages include the best of the forest in the Mahal.

They are held on a peculiar tenure, viz. under a sort of "isafutee sunud," granted, in former years, by the Jowar Rajas, or the Amuldars of the Peishwa; but, as there appears great reason to doubt the extent of the rights which these sunuds confer, they have been submitted for the judgment of the Inam Commissioner.

In the mean time these parties drive a profitable trade by the export of "duskias" (immature rafters) by the river to Damaun.

33. In passing through a corner of Dhurumpore or Ramnuggur to Penth Hursool, I observed, within the Raja's bounds, an extensive forest of fine straight timber, all of which might have been applicable to the formation of railway sleepers, felled, burned, and destroyed, on the ground, and this although it was within thirty feet of water-carriage.

FOREST OF PENTH HURSOOL.

34. Having traversed the territory on this occasion in a diagonal direction, I had a full view of much of the forest which I had not before seen.

The opinions I formed regarding it were fully embodied in my letter dated Singalee, 21st February, No. 229.

35. Since that letter was written, I have reason to believe that some improvement has taken place in the arrangements for the preservation and regulated consumption of the timber, but the paucity of executive officers, and the direct interest which the District Koolkurnees have in clearing the wood, so as to admit of the cultivation of inferior grains, must continue to render effective control here a matter more difficult than is the case elsewhere, parti-

cularly as the ryots have only to step across a branch of the Damungunga to become subjects of the Ramnuggur Raja.

36. The new scale of duties on wood, which came into operation in February 1855, appears to be willingly acquiesced in.

In fact, even under these the Teak is still considerably cheaper than that which is imported from seaward to Bombay.

37. As, under the existing state of demand, it seems probable that jungle timber may become rather an important article of export from Penth towards the coast, the rectification of the mistake announced in my letter of 26th September 1856, No. 1305, may not be without its use.

38. On the confines of Penth, below the Bunwar Ghaut, I noticed three villages which belong to the Dindoree Purguna (consequently entirely khalsa), where there is a good supply of ripe wood, and from which we may get a good many crooks of the 3rd, 4th, and lower classes.

These, if they can but be floated down the Par river, which rises close to the villages in question, may do something in aid of the wants of the Naval Department.

I have directed an experimental cutting of stocks to be made there this year, and will have the honour to report result.

CHOWSALEH DEPOT.

39. Ascending by the Ghaut of Bunwar, I proceeded to the Chowsaleh Depôt, and, while there, remarked that the timber brought up during the last season is of size smaller than that which had been previously imported up to 1853.

As the contractors still bring up only felled logs which had for years (viz. since the depredations discovered in 1849 and 1850) been lying in the forest, it will, viewing the certain demand which has now arisen for all descriptions of timber, be advisable to abolish the restriction, and to make every year timely terms, by which we may insure the bringing up of from twelve to fifteen hundred good logs annually for the supply of the different public departments.

The whole of the stock brought up during the present and past seasons has been supplied to the Inspector General of Prisons.

FOREST COUNTRY ON WESTERN BORDER OF KHANDEISH.

40. From Chowsaleh I passed into the western part of Khandeish, partly in the view to observe the pieces of forest inland on the ridges extending from the Ghauts, and also with the intention of inspecting the lines by which jungle-timber can most conveniently be brought from the Dang. On the necessity

of affording such a supply, I have already expressed my opinion in letters of 26th March, No. 352, and 16th April, No. 414.

To these sentiments the Government were pleased to respond by Order in Council of date 5th May, No. 1060, making a provisional grant of Rs. 6,000 through the Collector of Khandeish, for the purpose of widening and making passable the Beerset Ghaut.

41. During the current season (1856-57) I have, in concert with the Collector of Khandeish, arranged for the levy of fees on Bamboos and jungle-timber brought from the Dang by the Ghauts of Beerset and Cheep.

I have also drawn out and submitted to the Collector a table of fees suited to the locality.

For these preliminary proceedings I have the honour to solicit sanction.

42. Of the forest in the western part of Khandeish, I can say nothing encouraging. There is a sprinkling of older Teak and Seesoo trees, but the active burnings annually carried on by the Bheel population, for the purposes of the chase and of cultivation, effectually stop the shooting up of any seedling trees, while the practice of baring the valley heads, from whence the rivers of Bauglan take their rise close to the edge of the Ghauts, has the visible effect (long ago pointed out by Mr. G. Inverarity, when First Assistant Collector of Khandeish) of lessening the supply of water in the streams which feed the rich garden grounds of Bauglan. I do not see any method of remedying the evil, as these lands have been granted to the Bheel settlers, apparently without any reservation of forest pieces.

If such a separation could now be made, the advantage would be great, not only as regards increased volume of water supply, but also because different descriptions of valuable trees grow there, when left to themselves, luxuriantly.

43. For example, the Sandalwood may be seen in numbers of the hedges along the watercourses, while the valuable Toon tree (commonly called Bastard Mahogany) is observed growing abundantly in some of the deep ravines.

In such soil the Mahogany (of late introduced into the Bombay Presidency) may, in future years, form an article of profitable cultivation.

44. Having thus given a general sketch of my tour below, and on a part of the Ghauts, I now take up the subject of the

TEAK AND OTHER PRESERVES IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE SATTARA, POONA, AND AHMEDNUGGUR COLLECTORATES.

Those of Sattara continue poor, backward, and hardly worth the expense bestowed on their conservation.

Here inam and other partial claims on forest greatly hamper our efforts at effective control.

In the next jungle north, viz. Kekvee (in British territory), we continue the system of cutting down the more aged gnarled trees, and trimming the more promising ones, and, by the detail sales kept on throughout the year, we realise upwards of Rs. 700 per annum nett profit.

45. In some adjacent pieces of forest, as Arvee and Salowra, we have had a cutting last year, which, adverting to the size of the trees, and the scrubby soil in which they grow, yielded a good return. It is to be observed that these bits of forest were in the class which used formerly to be annually cut away for burning, and gave no return to the State.

SINGHUR.

46. Here the thinning out of old hollow trees has been continued, and the younger and more promising ones have been trimmed to the number of about 10,000.

The state of the whole forest is better since the measures, originated by H. W. Reeves, Esq., Revenue Commissioner S. D., and carried out by me with the sanction of Government, have been put into train.

The hereditary keepers have been replaced by paid ones, removable at pleasure, and having no local ties.

The two hereditary keepers, whose wutun or patrimony was for a time attached, have been removed to other districts on other duties.

I had hoped that the wutuns of the parties would have been permanently confiscated, the effect of which measure, as an example and a warning, would have been great; but I am informed, that after a fine of Rs. 8 or Rs. 10 had been inflicted on each, their wutuns were restored.

I am respectfully of opinion that we deal much too tenderly with such holdings, when the possessors have fairly forfeited them by misconduct.

47. The arrangement of this fine piece of forest is now nearly finished, the thinning and rectification having already occupied about thirteen seasons. About one-half a season of work still remains.

48. If examined now, it will be seen that the effects of the thinning out are not perceptible, except in the greater straightness and superior quality of the trees left.

Great trouble has this year been incurred in repressing the disposition to extend destructive cultivation, and in several instances we have been under the necessity of confiscating crops which had been sown in land beyond the limits allowed for cultivation.

This forest is peculiar, in that it has a share both of the Ghaut and the Deccan climate.

49. If all the hills to the east in the same range which are now bare were, as appears to have been once the case, clothed with wood, there is no doubt but that the effect of such in diminishing the dryness of the Poona climate would be considerable.

That (the eastern portion) is mostly under the rule of the Punt Sucheo, and the hills have by continued cultivation been made quite bare.

TEAK PRESERVES OF MAWUL TALOOKA.

50. In this, which forms the next line in proceeding north, we have ran about twenty villages, where there is a fair sprinkling of forest on the hills.

Such is also the case in the Soobha Peta of Kheir, and in two subordinate Mahals of Koodee and Ambegaum.

The preservation of the young wood is generally good, and depredations are few.

The annual accounts forwarded in September will show that I have had profitable cuttings in the two lastnamed Mahals.

TEAK IN THE MEENA AND KOOKNEE VALLEYS.

51. The wood in the upper part of these valleys has now thickened up so much (being spread over the hills of fifteen or sixteen villages) as to demand the services of a separate keeper.

This adds to our contingent disbursements a sum of Rs. 4 per mensem, but as the money will be well laid out, I respectfully offer the measure for sanction.

FOREST IN THE MOOL VALLEY.

52. Here there has been a regulated cutting to the usual extent, both of Teak and River Jambool, the former at Chas Peepulduree, the latter at Suheet Boodrook. A large number of promising young trees have also been trimmed at Chas.

I anticipate that, in the course of a few years, we may have regular annual cuttings at one or more of the villages of this valley.

FOREST IN THE PRUWARA VALLEY.

53. In some of the deep ravines which form the bed of the Pruwara, we have now a tolerable show of healthy Teak vegetation, besides that on the hills which divide the valley from that of the Mool. In two of the Pruwara

villages, viz. Koindeh and Peepur-Khunee, we had this year a quantity of material cut, partly for the public service, and the remainder for sale.

54. All these forest pieces were likely to have disappeared under the effects of hill and slope cultivation, notwithstanding the remonstrances which, in 1854 and 1855, I so earnestly made on the subject.

55. Since, however, the matter was, in 1855, taken up by the Revenue Commissioner, Mr. Reeves, and followed up so ably and energetically by Mr. Tytler, the present Collector, the forest of the villages has assumed a very different appearance, so that in a few years this valley will show on its hills and in the ravines a pretty continuous and healthy growth of young timber.

It is pleasing to think how much property has thus been saved by the exertions of these gentlemen seconding the efforts of the Conservator.

BABOOL AND BHER PRESERVES.

56. I have had but a partial view of these during the past year, but operations in cutting were as usual carried on, viz. at Koregaum (Bewur), Kolowree, and Lonee. These, as well as the usual sales of the Babool pods, have given a good return, the nett results, after deducting all expenses, including the salary of the keeper, having exceeded Rs. 900.

An extension of sanction has lately been asked for to enable us to take into the circle of conservation certain preserves in the Sewgaum Purguna of Ahmednuggur and the Indapore Talooka of Poona (vide Conservator's letter of 31st October 1856, No. 1493).

57. The older preserves of Alegaum, Oorulgaum, &c. in the Ahmednuggur Division, are, under the active assistance afforded by the Collector's Department, brought into a state of order.

Both in these and in the Poona preserves, where also every assistance is afforded me by the Collector, the annual sales of grass have for the last three years produced a considerably increased revenue.

TEAK PRESERVES UNDER AONDA AND PATTA, AND IN THE DARNA VALLEY, TALOOKA KOWNAEE.

58. These, being next to those of the Pruwara, should have been noticed in their place.

The same remarks apply to them as to those of the Pruwara valley.

59. Having thus gone over the several divisions of forest conservation which are in my own immediate charge, I proceed to notice the several subordinate branches, which are managed by officers under my control.

NORTHERN BRANCH, MANAGED BY MR. W. J. FENNER, FIRST ASSISTANT CONSERVATOR.

60. Herewith I forward a separate report from Mr. Fenner (Appendix B), also an original diary by Mr. Davidson, the Second Assistant (Appendix C).

The latter gives a very fair detail of the portions of the forest visited by him during the season.

The report of Mr. Fenner shows in his branch a balance to credit amounting to Rs. 11,887-11-5. It, however, appears to me that Mr. Fenner has wrongly increased his balance, by debiting only half of the rent paid to the Dang Rajas, leaving the remaining half to be debited to the Political Department,—a measure which, though apparently founded on justice, has never yet received the sanction of the Political Department.

Until, therefore, this sanction be accorded, the whole rent charge ought to have appeared in the accounts of Mr. Fenner.

61. A second apparent error is, that Mr. Fenner has credited his branch with the sum of Rs. 1,062-8-0 on account of logs brought to the Conservator's depôt at Chowsaleh.

The total number brought up was 469 logs, besides 500 poles for the Electric Telegraph Department.

In my report for 1854-55, I intimated my intention of dealing with such receipts in the following manner, viz :—

1*st.*—To deduct from the total the amount paid for bringing the wood from the forest to the depôt.

2*nd.*—That of the remainder one-half should be to the credit of the Conservator, to cover depôt and other charges, and one-half to the credit of the northern branch.

Under this arrangement, the balance to be carried to account by Mr. Fenner would be as follows:—

His share of nett profit on logs .....Rs.	519	7	3
Do. on telegraph poles	382	0	0
Total....Rs.	901	7	3

Under the reduction of the above items, the balance of Mr. Fenner would stand as follows, viz. Rs. 6,008-15-8, instead of being Rs. 11,887-11-5.

62. It will be remarked that Mr. Fenner states the price paid to the ryots for timber as being Rs. 8-8-0 per khundy, and that the charge made to the several public departments was Rs. 15-8-0 per khundy. This price cannot be deemed high, when it is considered that Mr. Fenner had

reported his having been this year offered on the bunder Rs. 30 for his selected wood.

It will be further noticed that Mr. Fenner has succeeded in reducing the outstanding balances to the sum of Rs. 10,410-8-7, the liquidations during the year having amounted to Rs. 812-13-7. These liquidations have apparently not been effected by the unsatisfactory process of civil suit, but by inducing the Assamees gradually to work out their arrears, by bringing fresh material from the forest.

Mr. Fenner has supplied to us this season 300 crooks of quality so superior to those furnished from the Kolwan jungles that I feel quite justified in depending for our future supply on this source, and that of the southern forests; and this I do the more readily as I have lately ascertained nearly to demonstration that the Maistree employed by me since 1849 on a salary of Rs. 35 per month, and originally taken into pay on the recommendation of the Dockyard authorities, has been plundering the Government forests and driving an extensive private trade on his own account under the cover of the Government permits.

63. Mr. Fenner appears confident that he will be able to supply a large number of crooks annually.

While, however, giving to Mr. Fenner the due meed of praise for what he has done, I do not conceal my opinion that the quality of the log timber furnished by him is by no means equal to that supplied during the last five years of the incumbency of Mr. Roberts. (See Appendix D.)

64. Most of it appears to be what is called Boras timber, the logs being pruned away from the middle towards the ends, by which process a considerable quantity of good wood is destroyed.

65. In company with Mr. Fenner and the political officers, I this year attended the annual meeting of the Dang Rajas at Moolere.

Their complaints were all heard and considered.

The meeting was vastly more peaceable and well ordered than those of 1849 and 1850.

Complaints made related chiefly to the restraint put on them as to cutting down and destroying jungle-timber for their cultivation.

66. A reasonable latitude was on this point conceded with respect to the description of trees to be cut, in the hope that, under the personal influence of the Dewan Meer Kadur Ali, this evil may be gradually abated.

67. The happiest results appear to have attended the appointment of this Dewan, who was selected by Mr. Mansfield. He is an officer of energy, activity, and intelligence.*

* I am sorry to have to add that, having since been found guilty of the most gross malpractice, he has been heavily fined and dismissed.

68. No decision has yet been notified regarding the forty-six villages of Waujpoor Tuppa, in the Mahal of Nowapoora, dominion over which had been usurped by the Gaekwar authorities.

SOUTHERN TIMBER BRANCH.

69. The untimely demise of Mr. Poulton, who died in November last, has tended materially to cripple our import and other arrangements here for the past season.

The timber supplies have been scanty, and of the Keerwuttee crooks which I saw in the forest in December 1854, not three hundred have yet reached us.

70. In fact, the new arrangements which ensued after Mr. Poulton's death do not appear to work favourably, either as regards celerity, quantity, or quality of supply.

71. The successor of Mr. Poulton (Mr. Smith) has, since entering office, been chiefly employed at Calicut in the purchase of jungle-timber for the Naval Department, also of Teak and other supplies for the Ordnance Department.

72. I do not expect that, without again visiting Malabar, I shall be able to make a full report regarding existing arrangements, but the Murathee correspondence of my own office, as well as the account branch, have so materially extended since 1854, that I find great difficulty in moving to distant provinces, where correspondence and references are so liable to interruption and irregularity.

BOMBAY DEPOT.

73. In April last, the business of taking over all the timber from the Naval Department was brought to a satisfactory conclusion by my Assistant, Mr. Williams. The work of the depôt now goes on with much regularity.

We know exactly the quantity and quality of the material in charge. The surplus, after setting aside a quantity for the three years' requirements of the Naval Department, is being gradually disposed of.

74. We seem to have erred in taking over the timber at issue-rates value instead of at the price whereat it was rated in the books of the Naval Department, but this is a mistake which, it is presumed, can readily be rectified by the account branch of the Military Board.*

75. The state of the valuable Poon spars still lying exposed to all changes of weather continues to be a source of anxiety, and as there is in the Mazagon yard sufficient room and cover for the whole, early measures should, I am

* It has since been so.

respectfully of opinion, be insisted on, for the better protection of this valuable property.

It was only lately that we had to pay Rs. 629 for reducing and cleaning twenty-one of these spars, which had become quite crumbly under the action of the sun and rain; and it may be seen that the large ones now lying close to the vellard at Colaba will, at no distant period, merge into the same state unless timely measures be taken.

76. Having now put this opinion on record, I trust I may be held exempt from all future responsibility on this score.

RAFTER DEPOT.

77. The want of a depôt for rafters intended for the supply of our now numerous out-lying stations having been much felt, Government were pleased some time ago to sanction a sum for the formation (by enclosure) of such a depot.

It however occurs to me, that as difficulties will probably arise as to making any enclosure in the present public ground, a preferable plan, both as to security and other requirements, would be to allow the rafters to be stored within the Mazagon Dockyard.

FEE COLLECTIONS.

78. These have now been in operation since November 1850, and, on the settlement soon after made, the collections go on pretty smoothly.

79. The enhanced value of jungle-timber, and the increasing drain on our forests, led me this year to propose some alterations, which have been finally sanctioned; but, for a portion of them, the notice of approval was received too late in the season, and therefore the Talookas were given out in farm as before.

The high prices this year offered being on the whole upwards of double those of former years, show that my opinions as to the increased value of material were well founded.

80. The fee system is gradually being extended to the Collectorates of Poona and Khandeish; but much caution and management are necessary in carrying through the scheme there.

However, a good beginning has been made in 1856-57, and as yet the new arrangements work well. A detailed report shall be made at the close of the season.

81. All these extensions throw much additional labour and responsibility on the Conservator, particularly as every disbursement, however small, has to be provided for from head quarters, and not, as formerly, defrayed from the

fee realisations. Hence the necessity for continued applications for small sanctions; and this has latterly become so heavy a matter, that I now prefer to forward in one monthly abstract fee disbursements whether made or otherwise.

By this bill being passed at monthly intervals, regularity will be maintained, and the accumulation of minute responsibilities, which must otherwise ensue, will be avoided. I trust that the Chief Engineer and Government may approve of this plan, as being the only one practicable under the circumstances, unless we revert to the mode of paying the current charges out of the returns; but this latter is apt to lead to confusion and inaccurary, therefore I beg to recommend that the one I now follow be in preference adhered to.

SIND FORESTS.

82. In regard to these, the report made to the Commissioner by the Ranger, Captain Hamilton, under date 11th August 1856, is of an encouraging character, the nett profit shown being Rs. 53,940-7-4; but I am not aware as to whether the salary of the Ranger and his subordinates has been deducted from the gross previous to striking a balance.

In any case, the increase, as contrasted with the receipts of former years, is sufficiently striking.

83. Captain Hamilton notices the ravages committed by the river in its uncertain course on two of the best forests, which had been kept closed for the purpose of public supply, and for this reason recommends the formation of additional forests somewhat more inland.

I am still of opinion that the restoration of those on the river to their pristine extent might be a preferable measure, and one involving less outlay; but in the event of out-lying waste lands being easily procurable without sacrifice of revenue, there seems no reason why a cautious experiment might not be made in forming say one forest in the course of two years, and thus gradually providing for the extended consumption which will unquestionably in future years arise.

ALEXANDER GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX A.

Abstract showing the Amount of Profit from Forest under immediate Charge of the Conservator, for 1855-56*; also of the Branch of the First Assistant Conservator.*

No. 1.	Amount of nett receipts from Teak, Babool, and Jambool, as per account rendered.....	Rs.	46,914	14	9		
No. 2.	Fallen and stolen wood sold, with Government share of fines		1,857	11	0		
No. 3.	Amount from jungle-wood, ditto.....		350	12	12		
No. 4.	Amount realised by jungle-fees		36,527	4	4		
No. 5.	Ditto ditto from Teak unprotected by passes		3,317	13	3		
						88,968	8 3
Deduct,—							
	Expense of forest keeping for the year, exclusive of Bheemthurree, which has been already deducted (vide Account No. 7).....	Rs.	3,936	0	0		
	Amount of Conservator's salary and travelling allowance for twelve months.....		9,210	0	0		
						13,146	0 0
					Rs.	75,822	8 3
Add,	Amount of Mr. Fenner's profit for the year, as corrected by the Conservator (vide annual report for 1855-56, p. 72).....					6,008	15 8
					Total nett profit.... Rupees	81,831	7 11

Total of nett profit—Rupees Eighty-one thousand, Eight hundred and Thirty-one, Annas seven, Pies eleven.

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests.

November 11*th,* 1856.

N.B.—The profit derived on issues from the Bombay Depôt is not taken into account here, as the Conservator had no data sufficient to enable him to form an accurate estimate.

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APPENDIX. B.

No. 124 of 1856.

TIMBER DEPARTMENT.

To Dr. ALEXANDER GIBSON,

Conservator of Forests.

SIR,—I have now the honour to transmit for your information my proceedings in connection with my tour through the Dangs and vicinity in April last. Leaving Bulsar on the morning of the 2nd, I proceeded *viâ* Bansda on to Kurjaee Naka, from whence, after having inspected the "choprees" of the above and adjoining Naka, I moved through the Peepree forests on to Koorkutch. This main trunk road was, during the last season, closed, in consequence of the usual crossing of the Ambeeka river having become impassable for heavily laden timber-carts; another ford has, however, since been effected, and large supplies of timber have again proceeded by this route to the Bulsar Depôt.

While en route through the Peepree and Garvee Dangs, loud complaints were made to me by the Bheel and Koonbee cultivators, relative to the prohibition of "khandar," *i. e.* lopping the trees of their tops and branches for cultivation. This subject having, however, been brought to your notice and that of the Collector of Khandeish by the ryots themselves, while assembled at the late meeting at Moolere, it is not necessary for me to enter into any further explanation in connection therewith.

Leaving the forest of Peepree, I passed into Dang Garvee, where many of the timber-cutters were employed transporting their wood to the several "peetas" preparatory to loading their carts for the depôt. This Dang still possesses, in its numerous ravines and hill sides, large quantities of Teak of various growths. Besides the above, Kheir, Seesoo, Tunnach, Teemroo, Sadra, Kullum, and other valuable woods are seen in tolerable abundance.

From Nonarah I proceeded on to Mahalpara, in Dang Amalee. In this locality, the Teak is only seen in small scattered and stunted patches,

although various jungle-woods, such as the Koosumb, Kurinj, Wurrus, Kakur, &c. &c. prevail here in great profusion. There was a still established at this place by a Kullal from Khandeish, who, with others, at the request of Mr. Collector Mansfield, have been ordered to quit the Dang,—a measure which, if fully carried out, will, I am in hopes, tend to lessen the feuds and broils that so frequently occur amongst the Bheel population, who, when under the influence of the " mowra" spirit, procured at their own threshold, commit excesses that would otherwise probably never have occurred. Leaving the abovementioned place, I moved on eastward to the village of Gureed, passing through the large and deep valley of Hoobana, in the declivities of which much large wood is seen towering to the light; but from the extreme steepness and rugged nature of the entire ravine, the timber could only be obtained by an enormous amount of manual labour.

From Gureed, on to Chicklee, at the foot of the Baboolna Ghaut, no very large wood of any kind is to be met with; the Aloo and Koosumb prevailing, as over the face of the Ghaut, where, by-the-bye, I observed that a good deal of jungle-wood, although of no great value, has been mowed down and fired for cultivation. This wood should, I conceive, in some measure be conserved, for, if the annual process of burning goes on unrestricted, the time will come, I fear, when the villagers are likely to suffer much inconvenience in obtaining firewood sufficient to meet their daily wants. Passing up the Baboolna Ghaut, now barely practicable for laden cattle, in consequence of large detached masses of rock being thickly strewn along the winding and narrow pathway, at 7-30 halted for the night at Baboolna, and on the morning of the 7th reached Moolere.

On the 9th, the Rajas having assembled, with the exception of Hussoo Sing and Bapoo Koowur (who were respectively fined in the sums of Rs. 50 and Rs. 100), were presented with their several dresses of honour, and, on the following day, received their half-yearly instalments, in accordance with the usual custom.

April 10*th.*—Left Moolere, and again proceeded into the Dang *viâ* the Baboolna Ghaut, and from thence on to Rooee Mahal, in Garvee. This is the most dense part of the forest, and from whence the largest and best timber is procured. Leaving the above locality, I moved on to Kopree Amba, where some timber-cutters had erected their peetas. The flower of the mowra was seen here in full perfection, and the whole Bheel population were employed in collecting the same for sale. I remained here four or five days, that I might visit the several ravines in the vicinity, in which a fair sprinkling of moderate sized Teak is met with. It is, however, difficult to be got at, the hill-sides being both steep and rugged.

April 18*th.*—At daylight went on to the village of Kesur, about nine miles

east of Garvee. This part of the forest has plenty of small Teak, but it is somewhat beyond the head of the forest road, and, consequently, has been little worked. The Seesoo is also very abundant.

April 20th.—Went on to Kurmahal, Dang Derbowtee. Throughout this part of the forest the timber is small; Bamboos very scarce. The grass and under jungle had been recently fired, which gave this tract of country a most desolate appearance, and made our tents the reverse of comfortable.

April 21st.—Passed on through Boorkurée to Powa Dongur (Gaekwar's territory). Found wood-cutters here from Surbhon. Wood felled very inferior. Wild hog are seen here in large herds. All the servants floored with fever. Water very foul.

April 22nd.—Moved on to Dabdhur; visited the surrounding hills and ravines. Here the forests have been considerably worked. From the above proceeded on to Baideepara Naka, where I remained two days; inspected the choprees, &c.

April 26th.—Arrived at Boojur, at the foot of Roopghur hill; much Teak has been felled in this vicinity. A good sprinkling of young trees are, however, coming forward. Saw several old guns on the summit of the hill. Songhur visible from the above.

April 28th.—Passed on to Kakurda Naka; found the Mehta very ill; compelled to relieve him. The timber-cutters observe the season has been unsually healthy, very few of them having suffered from fever. Man-eating tigers abound here: only a few days ago one of our Patels, while sleeping with two of his band under the cart, surrounded by their cattle, was seized by the neck, and carried off more than half a mile, into the thickest of the jungle, where he was found the following morning quite dead, with his legs devoured to the trunk. Only a short time before this incident, a cultivator was taken off from his field while at work in broad daylight; the body was found dead a short time afterwards, partially consumed. The Bheels have, as you are aware, a religious respect for the monarch of the forests, and will not make war with him. It would, I think, be some inducement to the "shikarees" of Khandeish to slay these ferocious brutes, if the Government would augment the reward, and thus relieve the people from a scourge that will ere long, if not kept down, increase, and drive the people from the country.

April 29th.—Left Kakurda, and proceeded, through the Koeta Dang (where little or no large wood remains), on Kurjaee, when I received a letter from Bulsar, which necessitated my speedy return there, at which place I arrived on the 30th.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. J. Fenner,
First Assistant Conservator of Forests.

Surat, 2nd July 1856.

CONTINUATION OF THE FOREGOING REPORT.

With reference to Government resolution No. 1913, dated 7th May 1855, and again on the 13th December 1855, No. 5242, on the same subject, it was decided that timber of foreign States unprovided with permits would be held liable to a royalty duty as British timber. In conformity with the above resolution, and with your instructions in connection therewith, I caused notices to be posted throughout the Surat Zilla, intimating that, subsequent to the 22nd March 1856, all carts laden with timber the produce of foreign States, unprotected by authorised pass-notes, would be liable to pay the same jungle fee as that levied on those timber-carts frequenting the British forests.

At the expiration of the time specified in the notices before alluded to, with the assistance of *some* of the Mamlutdars, I commenced putting the collective fee system in motion on all those carts unprovided with the required permits. The measure was, on the first introduction, as you may suppose, very unpopular amongst the timber-cutters, who could not be made to understand that the fee or tax, although borne by them in the first instance, ultimately weighed upon the purchaser. The result was, that throughout the Zilla the whole trade in timber for a time became paralysed, and not a single log of wood was brought to any of the bunders. Anticipating that some such difficulty would be experienced in the practical realisation of the fees, I had addressed a letter to Mr. Acting Collector Davies, soliciting his aid and advice in connection with the duty to be performed. The correspondence that transpired in reference thereto has already been forwarded, but up to this period no reply has been received as to the course to be adopted in cases of opposition by any parties to the payment of the fee demanded.

I am glad, however, to inform you that, up to the close of the season, no very serious difficulty presented itself as far as actual realisation of the jungle fee was concerned.

It is, however, I conceive, important that the pass-note system should be extended into the Broach Zilla, inasmuch as a large quantity of timber, the produce of the Sagbara, Goondeebajpore, and Rajpeepla jungles, proceeds through the above Collectorate as well as that of Surat; therefore the permit system, to press equally on all classes of timber-cutters, should include the Zilla of Broach. There will be some little expense attendant upon the examination of the permits at the several bunders or nakas. To meet this a small registration fee of four annas should be charged on each cart. This sum would be not only fully adequate to liquidate the expenses incurred in the

payment of the people employed, but leave an annual balance of Rs. 8,000 or Rs. 10,000 to the credit of the Department.

To prevent trickery amongst the timber-cutters and others, it would, I think, be advisable to have all the permits lithographed, and forwarded (the expense of which would be very trifling) to the Waewutdars of the several States from which timber is procured. This would, judging from the expense of the past season, save much trouble and altercation between the Government employés and the cartmen from whom the fee has to be realised.

During the two months' practical working of the permit or jungle-fee system, the gross sum of Rs. 3,050-5-6 has been collected, from which Rs. 474-6-10 has to be deducted for the payment of Mehtas and Peons employed in the performance of this duty, leaving a nett profit of Rs. 2,575-14-8, as shown in the accompanying annual sketch of this department for the year ending 30th April 1856.

(Signed) W. J. FENNER,
First Assistant Conservator of Forests.

No. 183 OF 1856.

TIMBER DEPARTMENT.

To Dr. A. GIBSON,
Conservator of Forests, Hewra.

Surat, 8th October 1856.

SIR,—On the 3rd July last I did myself the honour of transmitting an approximate sketch of the annual transactions of the Northern Timber Agency for the year ending 30th April 1856. Since that period the half-yearly accounts have been balanced, and the correct sketch framed, which I now beg to enclose.

2. The balance now shown in favour of the department exceeds that of the approximate sketch by Rs. 35-6-0, making a clear balance of Rs. 11,887-8-5, instead of Rs. 11,852-2-5, to the credit of the northern agency. During the year under notice, the sums advanced to the ryots for cutting amount to Rs. 32,711-8-3. The entire equivalent for the foregoing is, straight timber 2,391 logs, equal to 3,360 khundies, curves 194, sotas 421; the whole of

which (with the exception of about 500 rejected logs) will be supplied to the several public departments.

The sums credited for timber supplied amount to ..	Rs.			49,915	13	3
That derived from fee koontee.....				6,149	5	4
Whilst there is due for 850 logs that proceeded up the Ghauts.....	Rs.	1,062	8 0			
Together with Rupees recovered for small materials		92	6 8			
				1,154	14	8
The aggregate receipts for the year on this head are therefore.....	Rs.			57,220	1	3
This, with the balance of timber remaining on the 30th April 1856, and the other two items shown in the sketch as per contra, bring up the credit sheet to				90,879	7	3
While the aggregate debit inclusive of all charges, with the balance of timber at the depôt on the 1st May 1855, amounts to.....	Rs.			78,991	14	10
Leaving, as shown, the sum of ..... in favour of the Timber Department.	Rs.			11,887	8	5

3. The average price of the timber paid to the ryots for the year under notice is Rs. 8-8-0 per khundy, while that charged to the several public departments is Rs. 15-8-0. During the year, 1,224 carts proceeded to the forest for timber, and 173 for Bamboos. The whole advances made to the cartmen were recovered by the end of May, and their accounts have been subsequently adjusted and transmitted for audit.

4. With reference to the outstanding balances of the late Mr. Roberts, the separate sheet shows the actual recoveries that have been made for the year, and also the sums in detail now due by twenty-six Assamees, with a column of remarks, setting forth the prospect of further recovery, &c. &c. With the new system of registering the passes of all timber-carts, I hope during the coming year to be able to identify with greater facility defaulters who have up to this time evaded their liabilities to the department; these balances, you are aware, extend over a lengthened period. Several of the principals, with their securities, have died off, while others are paupers, or with means barely sufficient to gain subsistence for their families, leaving in some instances little hope for further recovery. Still I would not at present advise that these sums be

written off; the precedent would, I fear, act prejudicially with those Assamees who have for the last two or three years been exerting themselves to liquidate their debts to the agency. With time and perseverance, these balances may, I trust, yet be reduced within more reasonable limits.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. J. FENNER,
First Assistant Conservator of Forests.

Sketch of the Transactions of the First Assistant Conservator of Forests,

DR. *to 30th*

Receipts.		Amount.			Total.		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
To Balance of cash, timber, &c. on 1st May 1856.		.....			33,995	11	9
To Amount drawn from the Collector's Treasury, being the amount placed to my credit, sanctioned by the Chief Engineer of Public Works, by sundry drafts from the General Paymaster, as follows :—							
Amount received from the Collector of Surat, being the balance of Rs. 30,000, by two drafts from the General Paymaster, Nos. 95 and 96.		10,000	0	0			
Ditto ditto ditto, being in part of the amount placed to my credit this year, by two drafts from ditto ditto, Nos. 123 and 124..		10,000	0	0			
Ditto ditto ditto, being ditto ditto ditto by six drafts from ditto ditto, Nos. 142, 143, 168, 169, 202, and 203.....		30,000	0	0			
Ditto ditto ditto by two drafts from ditto ditto, Nos. 219 and 220.....		10,000	0	0			
					60,000	0	0
To Amount of fee koontees, &c. &c. received on timber &c. carts, during the year, including foreign timber fee		6,149	5	4			
Amount recovered from sundry ryots (timber-cutters), being the value of small materials not brought to the depôt		92	6	8			
Amount received, being the value of small materials sold during the year		453	7	4			
Amount of over-charge in the contingent expenses passed by the Chief Engineer of Public Works		0	1	0			
Amount recovered on account of fines imposed during the year		238	8	0			
To Amount received, being the value, &c. of Teak timber, &c. sold during the year		11,289	2	10			
Amount due by the following Public Departments, being the value, &c. of Teak timber, &c. supplied during the year :—							
Executive Engineer, Ahmedabad	Rs. 1,697 12 0						
Ditto ditto Deesa....	2,332 13 5						
Grand Arsenal, Bombay (Kullum wood, &c.).....	646 4 6						
Executive Engineer, Dockyard (Aeen timber)	9,036 14 7						
Ditto ditto Kurrachee	7,018 5 8						
Ditto ditto Hyderabad, Sind	5,191 8 9						
Carried over....	Rs. 25,923 10 11	18,222	15	2	93,995	11	9

in charge of the Timber Department in Guzerat, from 1st May 1855 April 1856. Cr.

Disbursements.	Amount.			Total.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
By Amount of Teak timber, &c. supplied to the following Public Departments during the year:—						
Assistant Conservator in Bombay, viz:						
Value of Teak timber, &c.. Rs. 5,670 5 7						
Advance 4,770 13 4						
	10,441	2	11			
Charges	435	3	5			
				10,876	6	4
Executive Engineer, Ahmedabad, viz:						
Value of Teak timber .... Rs. 998 14 1						
Advance..... 577 14 6						
	1,576	12	7			
Charges.....	120	15	5			
				1,697	12	0
Executive Engineer, Kurrachee, viz:						
Value of Teak timber, &c. Rs. 3,251 10 3						
Advance..... 3,123 3 1						
	6,364	13	4			
Charges	643	8	4			
				7,018	5	8
By Amount paid into the Collector's Treasury, Surat, &c. being the proceeds of Government timber, &c. sold during the year	.....			11,742	10	2
By Amount of freight, &c. of Teak timber, &c. supplied to the following Public Departments:—						
Executive Engineer, Dockyard (Aeen timber), viz:						
Prime cost ..... Rs. 4,503. 6 11						
Advance..... 4,193 4 4						
Charges 340 3 4						
	9,036	14	7			
Assistant Conservator, Bombay	114	3	8			
Executive Engineer, Deesa, viz:						
Prime cost ..... Rs. 1,237 10 6						
Advance..... 866 4 11						
Charges 228 4 0						
	2,332	13	5			
Executive Engineer, Hyderabad, Sind, viz:						
Prime cost..... Rs. 2,376 0 2						
Advance 2,034 0 3						
Charges..... 781 8 4						
	5,191	8	9			
Ordnance Department, Ajmere, viz:						
Prime cost ..... Rs. 598 12 4						
Carried over.... Rs. 598 12 4	16,676	2	5	31,335	2	2

Receipts.			Amount.			Total.		
			Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought over.... Rs.	25,923	10 11	18,222	15	2	93,995	11	9
Assistant Conservator, Bombay	10,991	4 0						
Ordnance Department, Ajmere.	1,165	12 6						
			38,080	11	5			
To Amount of half of the instalment annually paid to the Dang Rajas, is squared, as a political charge			5,717	8	0			
Amount of (850) logs of Teak timber conveyed above the Ghaut, by order of the Conservator of Forests.....			1,062	8	0			
Amount of expenses incurred in filing suits against sundry ryots			230	0	0			
		Rs.	63,313	10	7			
Deduct expenses:—								
To Amount of salary and establishment..... Rs.	10,978	0 0						
Amount of annual allowance to Bheel Rajas, viz: Political charge Rs. 5,717 8 0 Ready cash paid .. 5,717 8 0	11,435	0 0						
Amount of contingent expenses.....	173	15 4						
Amount of freight, &c. for Teak timber, &c. consigned to the Assistant Conservator in Bombay.....	550	1 1						
Amount of postage stamps..	46	4 0						
Amount of freight, &c. for Teak timber, &c. supplied to the several Public Departments, as noted in the cash accounts Nos. 1 and 2, is here debited to show in the Balance.....	2,284	5 2						
Amount of law expenses ..	230	0 0						
Amount of prime cost of Teak timber, &c. supplied to the following Public Departments, during the year, and sold:— Assistant Conservator in Bombay. Rs. 5,670 5 7								
Carried over.... Rs. 5,670 5 7	25,697	9 7	63,313	10	7	93,995	11	9

Disbursements.				Amount.			Total.		
				Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought over....	Rs. 598	12	4	16,676	2	5	31,335	2	2
Advance	448	6	1						
Charges	118	10	1						
				1,165	12	6			
Grand Arsenal, Bombay (Kullum wood, &c.), viz :									
Prime cost.....	Rs. 362	2	9						
Advance.....	232	14	1						
Charges.....	51	3	8						
				646	4	6			
							18,488	3	5
By Amount of half of the instalment annually paid to the Dang Rajas, is squared, being a political charge				5,717	8	0			
Amount of (850) logs of Teak timber conveyed above the Ghaut by order of the Conservator of Forests..... ..				1,062	8	0			
							6,780	0	0
Carried over....	Rs.			.....			56,603	5	7

Receipts.				Amount.			Total.		
				Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought over.... Rs.	5,670	5	7	25,697	9	7	63,313	10	7	93,995	11	9
Executive Engineer, Kurrachee....	3,251	10	3									
Executive Engineer, Ahmedabad..	998	14	1									
Executive Engineer, Dockyard, Bombay.....	4,503	6	11									
Executive Engineer, Hyderabad, in Sind.....	2,376	0	3									
Executive Engineer, Deesa	1,237	10	6									
Ordnance Department, at Ajmere ..	598	12	4									
Grand Arsenal, Bombay ..	362	2	9									
Amount of Teak timber, &c. sold.	6,729	7	4									
Fractional parts	0	2	8									
				25,728	8	7						
							51,426	2	2			
To Balance in favour of the Department..... Rs.										11,887	8	5
									Rupees	1,05,883	4	2

First Assistant Conservator's Office, Bulsar, 1st May 1856.

Disbursements.	Amount.	Total.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Brought over.... Rs.	.....	56,603 5 7
By Balance of cash, timber, &c. &c. on the 30th April 1856.....	.....	49,279 14 7
	Rupees	1,05,883 4 2

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) W. J. FENNER,

First Assist. Conservator of Forests, in Charge Timber Department, Guzerat.

MEMORANDUM.

The actual Expenses chargeable against the Department are as follows:—

First Assistant Conservator of Forests, Pay during the year, at Rs. 495 per month	Rs.	5,940	0	0			
Second ditto ditto, at Rs. 130 ditto		1,170	0	0			
Amount of Pay to the Office, Depôt, and Forest Establishment, actually passed, in addition to the above, during twelve months, Rowra Ghaut		3,868	0	0			
	Rs.	10,978	0	0			
Annual Allowance to Bheel Rajas	Rs.	11,435	0	0			
Contingent Expenses		173	15	4			
Prime Cost of Teak timber, &c. supplied to the Public Departments, and sold		25,728	8	7			
Freight &c. for Teak timber, &c. ditto		2,834	6	3			
Amount of Postage Stamps		46	4	0			
Amount of Law Expenses		230	0	0			
					51,426	2	2
Deduct—							
Amount realised by the sale of Teak timber, &c. including the fee koontees, and the amount due by the Public Departments as per contra	Rs.	63,075	2	7			
Fines		238	8	0			
					63,313	10	7
Nett Balance in favour of the Department					Rs. 11,887	8	5

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) W. J. FENNER,

First Assistant Conservator of Forests.

DR. *First Assistant Conservator of Forests Per Contra.* CR.

	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
To Balance of timber, &c. remaining on 1st May 1855.....	....	20,821 5 1	By Amount of fee and koontee, &c. collected on Timber, &c., carts, during the year, including foreign timber fee	6,149 5 4	
Amount of expenses incurred in cutting and carrying timber, &c. from the forests to the Bulsar Depôt, during the year.	32,711 8 2		Amount received from sundry Ryots, being the value of small materials not brought to the depôt	92 6 8	
Amount of expenses incurred on account of the Department during the year, viz:—			Amount realised by the sale of Bamboos, rafters, &c. &c., during the year.....	453 7 4	
Salary.....	10,978 0 0		Amount of over-charge in the contingent expenses duly passed..	0 1 0	
Contingent expenses, including freight, &c. &c.	3,054 9 0		Amount of Teak timber, &c. supplied to the public departments, and sold during the year.	49,369 14 3	
Compensation to the Bheel Rajas	11,435 0 0		Amount of (850) logs of Teak timber conveyed above the Ghaut.....	1,062 8 0	
Law expenses.....	230 0 0		Amount of half annual instalment to the Dang Rajas, being political charge.....	5,717 8 0	
Rs.	58,409 1 9		Amount of law expenses	230 0 0	
Less Fines imposed.....	238 8 0				63,075 2 7
		58,170 9 9	By Balance of timber, &c. remaining on the 30th of April 1856		27,804 4 8
To Balance in favour of the Department		11,887 8 5			
	Rupees	90,879 7 3		Rupees	90,879 7 3

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) W. J. FENNER,

First Assistant Conservator of Forests, in charge of Timber Department in Guzerat.

First Assistant Conservator's Office, Bulsar, 1st May 1856.

Strength and Cost of the Northern Timber Agency Establishment, from May 1855 to April 1856, inclusive.

	Sanctioned Amount	May 1855.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. 1856.	Feb.	March.	April.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
First Assistant Conservator of Forests..	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0
Second ditto ditto ..	130 0 0	130 0 0	130 0 0	130 0 0	130 0 0	130 0 0	130 0 0	130 0 0	130 0 0	130 0 0	....	....	....
Rs.	625 0 0	625 0 0	625 0 0	625 0 0	625 0 0	625 0 0	625 0 0	625 0 0	625 0 0	625 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0	495 0 0
Office Establishment.													
1 Head Clerk and Accountant	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0
1 English Writer	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0
1 Mehta	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0
1 Assistant Mehta	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0
1 Measurer	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0
2 Office Peons, at Rs. 5 each per month.	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0
Stationery allowance to the First Assistant Conservator	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0
Bulsar Depôt Establishment.													
1 Mehta	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
3 Peons, at Rs. 5 each per month....	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
Forest Establishment.													
3 Mehtas, at Rs. 15 each per month.	45 0 0	45 0 0	22 8 0	....	....	....	....	44 8 0	45 0 0	45 0 0	45 0 0	45 0 0	45 0 0
2 Jemedars, „ 10 ditto ..	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0
2 Havildars, „ 8 ditto ..	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0
6 Naiques, „ 6 ditto ..	36 0 0	36 0 0	15 0 0	....	....	....	....	31 15 10	36 0 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	36 0 0
18 Peons, „ 5 ditto ..	90 0 0	90 0 0	50 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	72 10 8	89 3 1	90 0 0	90 0 0	90 0 0	90 0 0
Rowra Ghaut Establishment.													
1 Naique	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	....	....	....	2 14 5	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0
3 Peons, at Rs. 5 per month each....	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	....	....	....	7 4 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
Total....Rs.	391 0 0	391 0 0	307 8 0	209 0 0	209 0 0	209 0 0	219 2 5	369 2 6	390 3 4	391 0 0	391 0 0	391 0 0	391 0 0

Abstract.

	First Assistant Conservator of Forests.			Second Assistant Conservator of Forests.			Office Depôt and Forest Establishment.			Total.		
1855.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
May	495	0	0	130	0	0	391	0	0	1,016	0	0
June	495	0	0	130	0	0	307	8	0	932	8	0
July	495	0	0	130	0	0	209	0	0	834	0	0
August	495	0	0	130	0	0	209	0	0	834	0	0
September	495	0	0	130	0	0	209	0	0	834	0	0
October	495	0	0	130	0	0	219	2	5	844	2	5
November	495	0	0	130	0	0	369	2	6	994	2	6
December	495	0	0	130	0	0	390	3	1	1,015	3	1
1856.												
January	495	0	0	130	0	0	391	0	0	1,016	0	0
February	495	0	0	....			391	0	0	886	0	0
March.....	495	0	0	....			391	0	0	886	0	0
April	495	0	0	....			391	0	0	886	0	0
Total.... Rs.	5,940	0	0	1,170	0	0	3,868	0	0	10,978	0	0

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) W. J. FENNER,

First Assistant Conservator of Forests, in charge Timber Dept., Guzerat.

First Assistant Conservator's Office, Bulsar, 1st May 1856.

Statement setting forth the Outstanding Balances of this Department up to 30th April 1856; also showing the Total Amount recovered during the past Year, with the prospect of further Recovery.

Number.	Names.	Advance. 1846.	1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	Total Amount due on the 30th April 1855.	Total Amount recovered during the past year.	Total Amount due on the 30th April 1856.	Remarks.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
1	Lalla Nuthoo	334 14 1	....	....	....	....	....	334 14 1	....	334 14 1	Irrecoverable; parties deceased.
2	Jogee Visramo ..	122 8 8	....	....	....	....	....	122 8 8	....	122 8 8	Decree obtained; no effects.
3	Cheeba Prang ..	....	470 11 6	....	....	....	....	470 11 6	....	470 11 6	Ditto ditto ditto.
4	Lalla Bhowan and Gosai Urjun ..	....	250 0 8	....	....	....	....	250 0 8	....	250 0 8	Ditto ditto ditto.
5	Jugga Kullianjee.	....	184 12 11	....	....	....	....	184 12 11	....	184 12 11	Ditto ditto ditto.
6	Dheydia Dewla ..	....	....	428 9 1	....	....	....	428 9 1	....	428 9 1	Ditto ditto ditto.
7	Rustomjee Jeejee.	....	....	198 3 3	....	....	....	198 3 3	....	198 3 3	Decree obtained; may be recovered.
8	Vulbha Sooria ..	....	....	208 13 7	....	....	....	208 13 7	15 0 0	193 13 7	Ditto ditto; some portion may be recovered.
9	Jugla Ramla	....	....	....	1,470 0 0	....	....	1,470 0 0	....	1,470 0 0	No security; this man is a pauper.
10	Rama Nana	....	....	....	253 7 5	....	....	253 7 5	253 7 5	....	All recovered.
11	Gosai Bhowan....	....	....	....	860 9 1	....	....	860 9 1	128 5 4	732 3 9	Some further sums may be recovered.
12	Khalpa Morar ..	....	....	....	54 3 8	....	....	54 3 8	15 0 0	39 3 8	Will be recovered.
13	Wagga Dajee	....	....	....	547 15 4	....	....	547 15 4	74 4 0	473 11 4	Some further sums will be recovered.
14	Bhana Fukeer ..	....	....	....	....	1,002 2 3	....	1,002 2 3	62 0 0	940 2 3	Ditto ditto ditto.
15	Jugla Bhania ..	....	....	....	....	748 10 11	....	748 10 11	....	748 10 11	No security; parties deceased.
16	Usmall Andum Sidat	....	....	....	....	....	86 5 6	86 5 6	29 0 0	57 5 6	Will probably be recovered.

17	Keeka Rama	....	....	....	....	....	104	15	7	104	15	7	11	8	0	93	7	7	No security; very doubtful.
18	Purang Nana	....	....	....	....	....	1,010	15	11	1,010	15	11	....			1,010	15	11	Ditto ditto ditto.
19	Rama Ooka	....	....	....	....	....	1,138	9	0	1,138	9	0	....			1,138	9	0	Ditto ditto ditto.
20	Purang Kanjee ..	....	....	....	....	....	441	12	10	441	12	10	....			441	12	10	Ditto ditto ditto.
21	Kanjee Mooria ..	....	....	....	....	....	29	9	7	29	9	7	11	8	0	18	1	7	Will be recovered.
22	Usmaljee Abramjee Mait	....	....	....	....	....	69	2	11	69	2	11	3	0	0	66	2	11	One security; will probably be recovered.
23	Usmaljee Umudjee Mait	....	....	....	....	....	92	12	3	92	12	3	14	0	0	98	12	3	Some further portion may be recovered.
24	Gopla Rudia	....	....	....	....	....	416	13	1	416	13	1	12	8	0	404	5	1	No security; very doubtful.
25	Abramjee Sallajee Futafor	....	....	....	....	....	346	12	1	346	12	1	43	8	0	303	4	1	One security; some farther portion may be recovered.
26	Moosa Kalla Makra	....	....	....	....	....	290	6	6	290	6	6	95	11	8	194	10	10	One security; Assamee deceased.
27	UsmallMoosaMait.	....	....	....	....	....	44	1	2	44	1	2	44	1	2	....			Received.
28	Huree Nagjee	....	....	....	....	....	15	7	4	15	7	4	....			15	7	4	Will be received.
	Total..Rs.	457	6	9	905	9	1	835	9	11	3,186	3	6	1,750	13	2	4,087	11	9	11,223	6	2	812	13	7	10,410	8	7	

(Errors excepted)

(Signed) W. J. FENNER,

First Assistant Conservator of Forests, in charge of Timber Department in Guzerat.

First Assistant Conservator's Office, Bulsar, 30th April 1856.

APPENDIX C.

Journal of a Tour in the Dang Government Forests, by Mr. J. DAVIDSON, *Second Assistant Conservator of Forests.*

May 6th, 1856.—Left Surat yesterday evening; arrived at Kalliabaree this morning at 8 o'clock.

7th.—Arrived at Gundavee at 8 A. M.

8th.—Arrived at Chicklee at 8 A. M.

9th.—Arrived at Rankooa at 7 A. M., where I breakfasted, and started for Anawul at 3 P. M., and arrived at 7 P. M.

10th.—Bansda. Arrived at 10 A. M. Carts broke down; repaired carts, and pushed on to Kurjaee, where I arrived at 6 P. M.

11th.—Kurjaee. Wrote letters to the several Rajas of the Dangs, requesting the presence of their Dewans to receive instructions regarding khandar or pruning of forest trees, as per Mr. Fenner's letter No. 70, dated May 2nd, 1856.

12th.—Kurjaee. Awaiting arrival of the Dewans. Reported arrival in the forests.

13th.—Kurjaee. Still awaiting the arrival of the Dewans; intend to visit Wugai tomorrow morning, should these men not appear before.

14th.—Left Kurjaee this morning, and arrived at Wugai at 6 P. M.; at 6 P. M. visited the hills where the Kathooreeas were wont to fell the Kheir for conversion to catechu; found great devastation among that species of timber; will again visit it tomorrow morning.

15th.—Wugai. Again visited the forest where the catechu people were at work. The forest has been much cut up. There is a Parsee here who has erected a liquor-shop and still, and according to Mr. Fenner's orders I directed him to break it down; but he gave me to understand that he had paid the Peepree Raja for permission to sell liquor in his forests, and until the money was refunded he could not do any such thing as break down his bhuttee. At present he does not distil any liquor, but I have no doubt that as soon as our establishment will be removed from the Dangs, his still will be in full operation.

16*th*.—Left Wugai this morning for Jerria; as far as Jerria these Kathooreeas have extended their ravages upon Kheir. At Chinchpara most of the old Teak timber attached by Major Morris, on the occupation of these forests, has disappeared, leaving about thirteen logs, quite rotten. Pitched my tent at Wugai Jerria during the day; moved on to Kurjaee in the evening, and arrived at 6 P. M.

17*th*.—Kurjaee. The Havildar has not arrived with the Rajas' Dewans; will await their arrival to-day.

18*th*.—Left Kurjaee this morning for Halmoree, en route for Kakurda; arrived at 8 A. M.; again moved on, and arrived at Zanunpara at about ½ after 6 P. M.

19*th*.—Left Zanunpara this morning for Kakurda; arrived at 7½ A. M. Mehta Nagur Beeka arrived from sick leave this morning. The Baideepara Mehta leaves for his own naka to-day.

Between 2 and 3 o'clock this afternoon experienced a very heavy thunder-storm, with hail, rain, and lightning, accompanied with heavy gusts of wind. The principal trees that suffered were the Mhowa (*Bassia latifolia*), the Burr, the Pulass, and the Aumla, and in some few instances the Kheir.

20*th*.—Moved on to Baideepara this morning, but, owing to the saturated state of my tents and baggage, could not get along until the evening, when obliged to take the lower road to Lukalee, from the same cause; arrived at 6 P. M., just in time to escape a repetition of last night's storm. Observed on my way that the Mhowa has suffered very much from the storm of the 19th, large limbs being torn off, and the heads of some trees twisted right round.

21*st*.—The state of the tracks between Baideepara and Lukalee is very bad, so that I have to return to Lukalee.

22*nd*.—Left Lukalee this morning at 5 A. M., and arrived at Sajupara at 8 A. M. The village is quite deserted. The storm of the 19th was hardly felt here.

23*rd*.—Sent for a sepoy from Bohrkuree, a small detached station of the Baideepara Naka. I would beg to suggest that these sepoys be withdrawn from there, and the men distributed to the Singana and Baideepara Nakas, for they have no work down in the valley. Visited the forests in this vicinity; there is plenty of good timber in them, but the cartmen complain of the distance to Bulsar.

24*th*.—Report of timber lying in the forests unclaimed:—

Chuneer	20 sotas.
Surrownea	6½ logs.
Sadurwell.....	2 logs.

Sajupara	1	log.
Baideepara	1	log.
Sutarpara	1	log.
Ditto	2	sotas.
Total....	33½	

25*th.*—Left Baideepara for Songhur, intending to visit the Sagbara forests. The whole of the country is open forest, consisting of Mhowa and Tar trees, which, together with the Pulass, form the staple. Arrived at Songhur at 3 P. M.

26*th.*—Remained here all day; received a visit from the Kiladar and the Mamlutdar. I am given to understand the Kiladar's lease of the Songhur farm expires this year: this circumstance sufficiently explains the nearly universal desertion of the villages in which the Kiladar holds a share as farmer of this farm. Was informed that it would be impossible to go on to Sagbara at present, for after three or four falls of rain it would be a matter of difficulty to return even to Songhur.

27*th.*—Obliged to remain here all day, on account of not being able to get carriage.

28*th.*—Received carts this morning; arrived at Lukalee at 11 A. M. The weather very threatening.

29*th.*—Pushed on to Walore that same evening. Went on to Bardolee; arrived at 10 P. M.

30*th.*—Arrived at Surat at 4 P. M.

(Signed) J. DAVIDSON,

Surat, 5th June 1856. Second Assistant Conservator of Forests.

APPENDIX D.

No. 228 of 1856.

Timber Department.

MEMORANDUM.

Mr. Fenner begs to acknowledge the receipt of Dr. Gibson's memo. No. 1605, with accompanying extract of his forest report dated 11th instant, in relation to the inferior quality of Teakwood as now brought from the Dang forests, in comparison with former years, or during the incumbency of the late Mr. Roberts.

In answer to the foregoing, Mr. Fenner would beg to observe that very excellent round timber has been procured from the forests for the last three or four years, and that a large portion of the same has been despatched to Sind for piles, and other heavy work; while Deesa, Ahmedabad, Broach, and Surat have also received a proportional share of good round timber. It is hardly to be supposed, in the general supply to various public departments, that all the chosen or picked wood should be sent to the Bombay Depôt, which, after all, only issues a limited supply of northern Teak for naval purposes, while the residue is disposed of in the market to private individuals,—a matter of secondary consideration.

Mr. Fenner feels it necessary, however, to inform Dr. Gibson that the northern wood has not fallen off in actual quality, but in quantity. The reason of this is, that for the last year or two there has been a pressing demand for Teakwood for railway purposes, which demand has so augmented the value of the timber-cutters' services, that it has been with the greatest difficulty that Mr. Fenner could procure large wood from the forests; inasmuch as small wood can be procured with about one-half the labour that large can, while a cart-load of the former has been realising in the market higher prices than this department has been accustomed to pay for one of the large-sized timber; so that a large portion of the timber-carriers have been drawn off temporarily to supply the extensive demand of wood for railway sleepers. The inconvenience likely to arise from this pressure was reported to Dr. Gibson at the time.

There is, however, but little doubt that the increased price paid to timber-cutters in this part will be only temporary, and that the jungles from which these large supplies have been obtained will soon be entirely stripped of all Teak timber, when the timber-cutters will again be compelled to fall back upon this department for employment.

The timber lately despatched to Bombay, and from which Dr. Gibson appears to have formed his opinion, would have been purchased here by merchants, shipwrights, and others, with the greatest avidity. It is a mistake to suppose that northern Teak will at all times realise a better price in the Bombay market than it does here. The demand for this kind of wood in building and repairing Native craft being very considerable, the idea of such wood being a drug in the market is entirely a fallacy; it would, if re-shipped to Bulsar, at this moment be sold at prices varying from Rs. 16 to Rs. 20 per khundy.

Mr. Fenner will in future, if Dr. Gibson approves of the suggestion, mark separately all timber intended for Dockyard use; while that left unmarked can be held available for the supply of the Arsenal or private individuals; but would it not be better that the Arsenal should be supplied direct from the bunder, and thus save the additional expense of passing through the Bombay Depôt.

Mr. Fenner would feel much obliged if Dr. Gibson would permit this memorandum to accompany his report of the 11th ultimo, that General Waddington and Government may fully understand that there has been no falling off in the actual quality of timber procured from the northern forests during the last two or three years.

(Signed) W. J. Fenner,

First Assist. Conservator of Forests, in charge Timber Dept., Guzerat.

First Assistant Conservator's Office, Bulsar, December 1856.

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